

THE MERKEL MAIL.

VOL. XIII.

MERKEL, TEXAS, DECEMBER 4, 1902.

NO. 42.

Prices that Appeal to Close Buyers.

Better Clothing for less money than elsewhere or your money back. Here are a few of the many garments marked for Quick Selling. Come in and investigate for yourself.

Lot No. 1778-771-2.
All wool check cassimere suits, regular 12.50 values, at . . . \$8.75

No. 4647. Gray mixed cheviott, all wool, regular price 7.50, to close at . . . 4.75

No. 7845-1976. Dark gray satinets, worth 4.50, reduced to . . . 2.50

No. 346-8517. Dark color, wool mixed; former price 9 and 10.00, now only . . . 5.00

No. 1141. Gray chk cassimere, worth 5.00, now . . . 3.50

All \$14 suits reduced 11.90. All 12.50 suits reduced to 9.85.

In boys suits we have them ranging in price from 1.00 to 3.50.

We are badly overstocked on youths long pant suits, and are making extremely low prices to close them out.

All ladies' Jackets, Skirts and Capes AT COST.



All stores sell cotton checks and domestics cheap, but we sell them a little cheaper:

Good quality yard wide LL Domestic . . . 3 1/2c
Extra heavy " " " " . . . 4 1/2c
Nice soft finish Bleach Domestic . . . 4 1/2c
Round thread 25 inch Cotton Checks . . . 3c
Fair quality Cotton Flannel . . . 4 1/2c
Extra heavy good width Cotton Flannel . . . 8 1/2c
Fast color yard wide Percale . . . 6 1/2c
Best quality Feather Ticking . . . 12 1/2c
Mattress Ticking . . . 4 1/2c
6 spools Clarks O N T Thread . . . 25c

8 1/2c Outing reduced to . . . 7 1/2c
10c Outing reduced to . . . 8 1/2c
12 1/2c worsted flannel now . . . 10c
Good quality 10-4 Blanket, regular price 65c, now only . . . 45c
\$1.25 bed comfort now . . . \$1.00
\$1.65 bed comfort now . . . \$1.40
All goods advertised in circulars and in this space will be on sale as long as the goods last.

Best brands light and dark calcos only 4c. Best quality table oil cloth only 15c per yard.

We have reduced the price on every pair of pants in our house from 10 to 20 per cent. No use to wear overalls when you can buy a good jeans pant for 75c. Others ask \$1.00 for the same pant.

We're very strong in QUALITY and Low in price on men's fleece lined underwear.

10 per cent reduction on all overalls, jumpers, and duck coats. Heavy lined duck coat 75c. Extra quality reversible duck and jeans coat, regular \$2.50 value, now only \$1.50.



THE STAR STORE,

MERKEL, TEXAS.



..WATCH THIS SPACE..

A. C. BENNETT,
THE SADDLE & HARNESS MAN.

ELLIOTT & MILLER

DEALERS IN

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

We keep in stock the Star steel mill, direct stroke and back gear; Eclipse wood mill, Dandy and Aermotor steel mills; a full assortment of pumps, piping from 1/4 to 2 in., plain and galvanized; brass cylinders and working barrels from 2 to 4 in. We buy in car lots and can make Fort Worth prices on anything in our line.

The Higher Life

Whisperings.

Rev. McConnell, Methodist.

The most decisive witness of the Holy Spirit's coming are often whisperings instead of shoutings in our ears. The word of God steals upon us like a thief in the night. We ought to be concerned about the repeated daily coming of Christ.

Gambling.

Rev. Myers.

Gambling is destructive of the habits of useful industry, while upon steady industry all prosperity is built. How can a man be content to toil for moderate wages when by the turn of a card he may get more than by a month's work? The young man bitten by this mania is ruined as a worker.

Spiritual Need.

Rev. Neil, Baptist.

Christ supplies our utmost spiritual need. In him alone there is satisfaction. In him we have the inheritance, incorruptible, undefiled and that fadeth not away. If Christ be ours, if our faith be rooted and ground in him, all things are ours and we are Christ's.

Highly Valuable.

Rev. Cadman, Congregationalist.

Nothing is more highly valuable, since God is righteous, than character in his creature. And the wondrous development of our late president's hold upon us is not to be explained in any

other way. The riddle of this life is not hard to read. He saw that badness was weakness and goodness was strength.

Responsibility.

Rev. Gregg, Presbyterian.

We best fit our children for life by starting them in life with a keen sense of their responsibility. Men talk of the irresponsible age. There is no irresponsible age. Every child has entered upon life. The living of boys and girls is just as much life as in the living of men and women. The service held every Sabbath afternoon in the Sabbath-school is just as much of a service as the service here. Sin in boys and girls, conscience in boys and girls, truth and holy love in boys and girls are just as real in boys and girls as in mature men and women. I would say to our children: You are living now, and living as really and intently and as effectively as you ever shall live. You are responsible to God now. You can be all that you ought to be just now, and this is your duty. We best fit our children for life by giving them an educated mind in a sound body.

Truly See.

Rev. Tillinghast, Universalist.

As man develops the power to truly see and hear and communicate he is invariably finding the things of life, not death—of love, not anger; and this is to say that when the full power to receive is used, man finds only God, love and fatherhood helping him into the fullness of sonship. Not only must man reach

up to God, but God reaches toward man; the infinite and the finite share in the process of human uplift, and this raises the certainty of ultimate triumph above cavil and debate. Souls that use bodies know the rich meaning of life; bodies that are the sepulchers of soul only exist. Let us live.

Position of Women.

Rev. Williard, Reformed.

By His recognition, Christ entirely altered the position of woman. He was the means of placing her on a social equality with man, and today she stands as man's social equal. She is equal to him in many things, and is much superior to him in some cases. Woman has Christ, and Christ alone, to thank that she is in the position which she holds today as a factor in the world, as the equal of man. He was the most potent factor in her elevation.

Lonfellow wrote: "If we could read the secret history of our enemies we should find in each man's sorrows and suffering enough to disarm all hostilities." When we think a moment we know this is true. There is no human heart but what has ached none but what have been dimmed by tears and sorrow, that have never been told. Doubtless could we read each other's secret thoughts our lives would be a more universal exemplification of the brotherhood of man; as we journeyed through this "vale of sorrow."—Ex.

Ustick has moved his jewelry store into the Thornton old building; call and see him.

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

Subscription Rates:

| | |
|--------------|--------|
| One year | \$1.00 |
| Six months | .50 |
| Three months | .25 |

Invariably in advance.

ADVERTISING RATES per month

| | |
|-------------------------------|--------|
| One inch space | \$.50 |
| Two inch space | 1.00 |
| Quarter column (4 1-2 inches) | 2.50 |
| Half column (9 inches) | 4.00 |
| One column (18 inches) | 7.50 |

Four issues constitute a month. All advertisements run and charged for until ordered out, unless limit is specified when insertion is made. Special prices on time contracts.
* Local notices, 5 cents per line, each insertion.

SPECIAL NOTICES.
Communications to insure publication must bear the signature of the writer, as well as the nom de plume under which they write. This is required merely as a guarantee of good faith. Obituaries, Cards of Thanks, etc., are inserted at one-half the regular advertising rates. Positively no deviation from this rule.

THE STATE'S SCHOOL FUND.

The Thirteenth Biennial Report of the State Superintendent of Public Instruction was recently published. It contained some interesting and surprising information as to the schools of Texas, and as we believe our people should know the real condition and actual needs of our schools, we give the readers of The Mail some facts set forth in the report.

We note the following as to the public school term:

"The general average length of the school term for the children of the state, including the independent school districts, for the year 1900-1901 was five and one-third months; the average in common school districts was only four and nine-tenths months. Nevertheless, there has been so much talk, not to say boasting, of the munificent permanent school fund of this state that the people do not realize that a good measure of local support is indispensable in our system."

A brief table of comparative statistics is then presented which shows that in the length of public term Texas ranks 36th in the U. S.; in the amount of money expended per capita of population on schools, Texas is 33rd state; in amount of annual expenditure per pupil in public common schools, Texas is 34th; in average teacher's salary, Texas is 31st.

The explanation given as to why Texas has done so little comparatively for the cause of education is that "poorly informed orators and writers" have made the people believe that the school fund of Texas is sufficient for the best of systems. Two remedies suggested by the state superintendent, (if Texas children are to have educational advantages that compare favorably with other states) is that every school district in the state levy a school tax, and that the state increase the state appropriations for schools.

"There is no question of ability involved in this proposal; for the execution would surely pay in money as well as in nobler regards. The support of public schools nowhere depends upon the wealth of a community, but always upon the appreciation of public education. The man who claims that his district is too poor to maintain a good public school perpetuates his own and his neighbor's present poverty; for his people must remain comparatively poor until his doctrine is abandoned. There are sister states in the union whose bitter experience have proved the impoverishing effects of the doctrine that they are too poor to afford good public schools."

The Mail believes the above is in accord with the true principles

Cotton May Advance!

But we will sell Hardware and Groceries at prices that can not be beaten anywhere.

Our Stock is Complete and Up-to-Date. We handle:

The Best



Flour,
Meat,
Lard,
Sugar,
Coffee,
Dried Fruits,
Candies,
Nuts,
Delicacies,
of Everything in
Groceries.

The Best



Stoves,
Wagons,
Buggies,
Plows,
Sulkys,
Disc Plows,
Harrows,
Planters,
Cultivators,
of Everything in
Hardware

The Best Hames, the best Traces, the best Collars, the best Pads, the best Backbands, the best Lines—in fact the best of everything in Hardware, Groceries, Queesware, Feed, Etc., at BEST PRICES.

GEO. F. WEST.

...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 Implements, 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.

ples of political economy; for education increases the capability of people for earning and creating wealth, and thus liberal school taxation is wise.

The Mail will further add that Texas, the Empire State of the South and West, should lead in educational interests, and that to insure the continuance of the tide of immigration to Texas, we should offer the homeseeker the excellent and indispensable inducement of an efficient public school for a long term each school year.

The State Legislature convenes the second Tuesday in January, and the body will have for consideration many question affecting the entire people. Most important among them will be the land law tangle. The statutes relating to free schools is also susceptible of improvement, and an effort will be made to remedy the evil. The Legislature will be confronted with vexed problems, but this should urge each member to do his whole duty.

The Populist party has disappeared from the political horizon,

and not a single adherent to populist ideas was elected to Congress. It will break out in a new place some sweet day.

The Dallas Morning News has been reduced in price to 75c a month. The News is cheap at any price, and the better it grows the less it costs the reader.

There seems to be a gang of thieves, of the sneaking variety, loose on the town. Many residences and outhouses have been visited lately and considerable plunder secured, not to mention the visits to wood piles and feed lofts. Other towns report similar crimes. A gun should be kept handy for use and there should be no hesitancy in using it on these midnight prowlers whenever the opportunity presents itself.

150 large clothing samples on display at our store next Monday and Tuesday. All the correct styles and patterns.

Watson & Bacon.

Mrs. J. W. Daniel left Tuesday night for Pecos on a visit to relatives.

A Timely Suggestion,

This is the season of the year when the prudent and careful housewife replenishes her supply of Chamberlain's Cough Remedy. It is certain to be needed before the winter is over, and results are much more prompt and satisfactory when it is kept at hand and given as soon as the cold is contracted and before it has become settled in the system. In almost every instance a severe cold may be warded off by taking this remedy freely as soon as the first indication of the cold appears. There is no danger in giving it to children for it contains no harmful substance. It is pleasant to take—both adults and children like it. Buy it and you will get the best. It always cures. For sale by Rust & Pittard.

Fashions come and go. What then? HAWES Hats are worn by a million men. 4t

J. T. MOUNT,
Abilene, Texas.

For nice, fresh groceries cheap see
Chenault & Hand,

We make a specialty of hauling only the best grocery fresh from the markets, if they are not old or musty when you get them. Give us a trial
Chenault & Hand

Nursery Stock.

I have 10,000 trees on ro and much new stock on hand. If you want fruit trees, shrubs, vines, shrubbery, etc. should be glad to figure with you. No better nursery stock to found, and the prices are right.
J. D. BORING

We are prepared to fill your entire fall bill of groceries and provisions, and at prices excellent by no one.

Chenault & Hand.

Cheap Watches.

Open face Silverine case, jewel, lever movement only \$4.00. A variety of sizes 0, 6, 12 and 18 gold filled watches from \$8.00 to \$30.

R. B. Ustick.

For Sale—A lot fenced, good well, northeast corner of block close to business part of town, not crowded, in good neighborhood, high and dry. Apply to
4t
S. M. Sewell,
Merkel, Texas.

25 PER CENT DISCOUNT 25

OR ONE-FOURTH OFF ON ALL

Mens, Boys, Childrens Clothing and Ladies and Misses Jackets

Beginning Thursday,

Nov. 27

and continuing 15 days.

\$2,500

Worth of New and Seasonable Clothing Slaughtered.

This 25 per cent reduction means less than the Manufacturer's Cost on some lots of these goods. Now's the opportunity to buy your Fall Suit, Overcoat or Jacket for less money than you have ever been able to buy them before.

We have the Finest Stock of Clothing in this town; Clothing that Fits; Clothing that will wear, and impress you as being the correct things. And we offer you the profits on them.

Today is worth a dozen tomorrows, so come now and let us fit you up, as this sale will positively not last but a few days. Its object is to extend business, draw people to our store, make friends of them, and so impress them with the uptodatness of our goods and simplicity of our prices that they will continue our customers. Our time and best efforts we devote willingly and exclusively to the futherance of this Clothing Sale for the next 15 days. Now will you let this opportunity pass without supplying your wants? You can't afford it. Work Clothes not included in this sale.

Come to see us for Stylish Clothing and the Lowest Prices.

Watson & Bacon,

The Spot Cash Merchnts.

Successors to Austin Fitts, : Merkel.

Foils a Deadly Attack.

"My wife was so ill that good physicians were unable to help her," writes M. M. Austin, of Winchester, Ind., "but was completely cured by Dr. King's New Life Pills." They work wonders in stomach and liver troubles. Cure constipation, sick headache. 25c at Rust & Pittard's.

Holiday Excursions.

The territory to which excursion tickets for the Holidays will be sold has been considerably widened. In addition to the usual sale of tickets to points in the South-Eastern States, the T&P Ry Company will also sell round trip tickets to principal points in Mexico, Colorado, Arkansas, Missouri, Kansas, Iowa, Illinois, Nebraska, North and South Dakota, Minnesota, and Wisconsin. The rate will be one first class fare plus \$2.00 for the round trip and tickets may be purchased December 13th, 17th, 21st, 22nd, 23rd, and 26th; good to return within Thirty days from date of sale. Further information regarding rates, through service sleepers, free seats in chair cars, etc., may be had from any Railroad Ticket Agent, or through correspondence with H P Hughes, Traveling Passenger Agent Ft. Worth Texas, or E. P. Turner, G. P. & T. A., T. & P. Ry Co., Dallas, Texas.

Favorite Family Remedy.

Frequently accidents occur in the household, which cause burns cut, sprains, and bruises; for use in such cases Ballard Snow Liniment has for many years been the constant favorite family remedy. 25c, 50c, & \$1.00 at Rust & Pittard.

AT COST.

In order to reduce stock, we offer all our Clothing, Ladies' Jackets and Skirts at Actual Cost.

THE STAR STORE.

The special term of district court convened at Abilene Monday. Very little was done, and the murder cases were continued to next term.

The first blizzard of the winter swooped down from the northwest yesterday morning and the thermometer fell to 30 above in a couple of hours. A smattering snow fell during the day.

Mr. and Mrs. J. M. Pate have a fine new boy.

Saturday evening, six miles north of Abilene, the nine year old son of M. B. Haobrough fell from a wagon and sustained injuries from which he died the following day. The wheels passed over his body.

Mrs. and Mrs. G. E. Comegys entertained a few friends in a very pleasant manner yesterday evening. Those present were: Mr. and Mrs. Geo. S. Berry, Mr. and Mrs. W. H. Dickson, Mr. and Mrs. Ed J. Leeman, Mr. and Mrs. T. A. Johnson, Mr. and Mrs. W. B. Mann, Messrs. Arthur Browning and Will Leeman. Refreshments were served and the occasion was fraught with pleasant associations.

Rev. Young, the new Methodist preacher stationed at Merkel, was due to arrive Saturday, but the norther probably interfered. The good ladies had prepared a surprise for him by furnishing the parsonage with new furniture and loading the larder with good things to eat. However, upon his arrival Tuesday the greeting was equally as fervent, and a day or two lost in disposing of the viands will probably not detract from their flavor.



WHEN YOU WANT

A Wagon that will not "fall down" when you need it the most, get an "OLD RELIABLE MITCHELL." It is the Strongest, Most Durable, Best Finished, Best Proportioned and Lightest Running Wagon on the Market.

ONE QUALITY ONLY—THAT THE BEST.

ED S. HUGHES & CO.,

ABILENE, TEXAS

S. W. SHEPPARD

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....

Groceries, Furnishings, Notions

WE have moved into the building next door to Warnick's Bank. Our stock embraces Groceries, Furnishing Goods and Notions, and we flatter ourselves that you will not find a better, nicer or neater stock in the town. We are making very low prices, quality of goods considered. A trial order is all we ask and we are sure you will always be our customer.

Remember, our stock is fresh and new; we have no shop-worn stuff to work off.

HILL & MARTIN.

Reduction Sale....

Realizing the necessity of reducing my stock of Millinery goods, I have inaugurated a reduction sale, and for a short time you can buy anything in the stock a discount of 20 per cent Everything new. Come quick. . . .

Mrs. F. B. Hoople.

Better Than a Plaster.

A piece of flannel dampened with Chamberlain's Pain Balm and bound on the affected parts, is better than a plaster for a lame back and for pains in the side or chest. Pain Balm has no superior as a liniment for the relief of deep seated, muscular and rheumatic pains. For sale by Rust & Pittard.

The Mail reaches a class of folks that read advertisements.

Advancing Their Interests...

We endeavor to advance the business interests of our customers in every legitimate way. In so doing our motives may be somewhat tinged with selfishness; for, upon the prosperity of its patrons hinges the success of every Bank....

Warnick's Bank,

Merkel, Texas.

Mrs. Tom Brown, who was injured about a year ago by being thrown from a buggy, died at Abilene Monday.

Marriage license have been issued to L. F. Woodard of Roscoe and Miss Allie Wright of Nubia.

...COMPARE IT WITH OTHERS...

This Is Not A Cost Sale!

NOR A REMOVAL SALE.

Our Prices are going to create "quite a stir," for never before has such offers been made to people of this country with a living profit added to cost of goods. We are not here to STARVE, therefore can not sell at cost, but we can make you PRICES that will COME UP to any COST or CLOSING OUT SALE IN ANY CITY.

Staple Department

In this department we are always lowest when it comes to prices and quality; so to save money on these goods it will pay you to see our line before buying. A few prices below: Fancy standard brands Calico, all good colors, 33½ yds to the dollar, or 3c yd.

Staple check gingham 4c yd.
Fancy dress zephyr gingham 7c yd.
Yard wide LL domestic 30 yds to the dollar or 3½c yd.

Good as Gold bleach domestic, yard wide, 5c yd.

Good soft finish bleach domestic absolutely clear of starch, 4c yd.

Knight's bleach cambric finish 6c yd.
10-4 pepperell brown sheeting, good, 17c yd.

Fancy double fold percale 5c yd.

Fancy outing cloth, suitable for ladies dresses, 5c yd. Better 6 and 7c yd.

33 yds cotton checks for \$1, or 3c yd.
A C A feather tick 10c yd.

8 spools best 6 cord thread for 25c.

Our line of cotton flannels is the best ever sold in Abilene, cost sale, discount or any other kind of sale.

A good cotton flannel 33 yds to the dollar or 3c a yd.

A good twilled back, heavy fleece 4c yd. A still better grade from 5 to 7c

Our 8c grade is a corker, extra heavy and extra wide, good fleece, 8c yd.

Dress Goods Department

Our dress goods will surely reach every woman's heart. Come and see them when ready to buy. We have

Half wool fancies, all colors 10, 15, 20c

All wool dress goods, fancy patterns, all colors, 25, 35 to 50c yd.

Fine broadcloths at 75c yd.

Fine all wool Panama suiting \$1 yd.

Our lot of wool weaves at 50c.

Vigories \$1.25 yd.

Silk crepe de chene, all colors, only \$1 yd. Delicate colors, especially suitable for evening wear.

We also carry an elegant line of dress trimmings in chiffon and wool of appliques, chiffon, velvet and silk embroidered allovers and many others.

Ladies' Skirts

Too much praise can not be given our skirt department. Our line is elegant in every respect. A few prices: Black fancy worsted half wool only 75c Heavy woolen tailor made walking skirt \$1 25; better grade \$1 50; and still better at 2 00, 2 50, \$3 00 and up.

This line of skirts is the best sold in this entire western country. See them before buying.

Jackets

Ladies' nice gray jackets, neatly made, short lengths, at only \$1 00.

A better jacket and longer at \$1 60.

Still better one at from \$2 00 up.

Childrens cloaks 50, 75c, \$1 and up.

Ladies' Capes

Here's another money saver: Ladies' plush cape, fur trimmed, 85c.

Ladies' plush cape, for trimmed, larger and better, at 1 00, \$1 25, up.

Ladies' cloth capes as long as they last from 25c up.

Ladies' Shirt Waists

These are winners, see them. We have otting waists in all sizes that are dandies. Also wool flannel waists, heatly made, solid colors, 75c.

Nice Trico all wool flannel waist at \$1.

All wool military style waist at 1.50.

Fancy all wool ones 2.00 and up.

A fine line of silk waists from 2 00 and 2 50 up. The latest styles.

Mens and Boys Hats

Men's fur hats 75c.

Men's fur hats, better grade, at 90c.

Still better fur hat 1 00, 1 25 and up.

Men's Stetson hats at all prices.

Boys' hats, something nice, at 25c.

Better grade of boys' hats 50, 75c, up.

Men's caps from 10c to 50c.

Boys' caps at 10c, 25c, and up.

Ladies and childrens Underwear

Ladies union suits, fleece lined, at 25c

Ladies bleach ribbed fleece lined vests

at 25c

Ladies very heavy ribbed vest at 25c

Misses union suits, fleece lined, at 25c

Misses very heavy ribbed vest at 25c

Infants cotton shirts 10c

Infants wool vest 25c to 50c

Boys clothing

We carry Mrs. Jane Hopkins' Star line in all grades and styles, prices too

Boys two piece suit 90c

Boys two piece suits 1 00

Boys two piece suits 1 25

Boys two piece suits at 1 50

Boys two piece suits at 2 00

Boys two piece suits at 2 50 and up.

Embroidery and Lace

We have a nice line of embroidery, sells at 3, 3½, 4 and 5c per yd and up.

Laces to sell at 3, 3 1-2, 4, 5c and up.

Woolen Department

All wool red flannel, plain, 10c yd up.

White flannel (not all wool) at 10c, 12 1-2c and 15c.

All wool white flannel 20, 25, 35c, up.

All wool blue and gray mixed 15 & 20c

All wool red twilled and blue twilled -flannel 15, 20c and up.

Jeans 8c, 15c per yard and up.

Nice large all wool fascinators at 25c.

Children's all wool hoods at 25c.

Ladies all wool knit shawls 25c, up.

Blankets Blankets

All wool 11-4 blankets \$3 50

All wool 10-4 blankets, greys and blues, 3 00 per pair.

Extra fine all wool 11-4 blankets 4 00 and up. Don't miss these.

Shoe Department

We carry the world renowned Hamilton-Brown Shoe Co's shoes, which

are sold in every territory in the union and known to all the world to be

the best shoes for the money that are made. We buy them direct from the

manufacturers, so our stock is always fresh and new, and no shoe house

carries any better goods nor more up-to-the-minute styles than we do.

Mens work shoes at 1 00 to \$2 50

Mens dress shoes at 1 00 to 3 50

Boys shoes 1 00 to 2 50

Ladies heavy shoes 80c to 1 75

Ladies dress shoes 80c to 3 50

Misses and childrens shoes at all prices from 25c to 2 00

We give with each pair of American Lady shoes a beautiful picture.

Notions

Good needles 1c a paper and up

Good pins 1c a paper and up

144 shirt buttons 5c

144 pant buttons 5c

1 dozen pearl dress buttons 5c

1 dozen pearl agate collar buttons 5c

4 bunches white stay binding 5c

1 yard frilled elastic web 5c

15 balls sewing thread 10c

1 pound knitting thread 15c

Hosiery

Mens gray mixed sox, full seamless, six pairs for 25c

Mens very heavy gray mixed sox, the best sox on earth for the money, 3 pairs for 25c

Mens fine seamless black sox 3 prs 25c

Mens finer, better goods 15, 25c, up

Ladies fast black seamless hose 10c, 3 pairs for 25c

Ladies fast black full seamless hose, 15c or 2 prs for 25c

Finer and better goods 20, 25, 35c, up

Ladies heavy fleece lined 15 to 25c

Misses heavy ribbed seamless black hose 3 pairs for 25c

Misses extra heavy ribbed seamless black hose 15 to 25c

Infants fast black hose 5, 10 to 25c

Mens Furnishing Dept

Mens fleece ribbed undershirts 20c

Mens fancy fleece ribbed undershts 25

Mens fleece lined undershirts 25c

Canton flannel drawers, elas. ank. 25c

Bleach drill drawers, Scrivens pat 50c

Our line of overshirts for 50, 75c, 1 00, 1 50, 2 00 and 2 50 are the best

goods in the country at the prices.

Mens fancy dress shirts 25, 50, 65, 75 and 1 00.

Mens work shirts 25, 35 and 50c

Mens work pants 75c, 1 00 and 1 50

Mens dress pants 2 00, 2 50 to 5 00

Mens suspenders 10c

Mens Guyot suspenders 15c

Boys suspenders 5, 10 to 25c

Mens white linen hand., 5, 10c, up

Mens heavy work gloves 50c, 100 and up to 2 50

Good leather money purse at 5c



What you pay for an article is important, but what you get in return for your hard earned cash is ten thousand times more important. We appeal to by means of advertising; our goods appeal for themselves. It will pay you to come to us and look at our goods. One price to one and all.

S. W. Grimes & Co.,

The Big New Daylight Store, South Side, Abilene, Texas.

Safe, swift and sure is the proper description of Cheatham's Laxative Tablets. Cure colds in a day. Can be carried in vest pocket. Easy to take. Guaranteed. Price 25c.

The Merkel camp of Woodmen have received an invitation to participate in an unveiling at Colorado Sunday, Dec. 7, and the camp will attend in a body. A very interesting occasion is promised.

Judge Forrester of Aspermont, County Judge of Stonewall county, stopped over with friends here Saturday, where he formerly resided. He had been in Eastland County buying cattle for his ranch.

Dr. Leeman left Sunday night for Houston to attend the Masonic Grand Lodge. He stopped over in Ft Worth Monday to visit his daughter, Miss Lucy, at Polytechnic College.

Christmas weddings galore are on the tapis.

Mr. and Mrs. T. A. Johnson entertained the young people very hospitably Thanksgiving eve.

Will the merchant who is wise ever cease to advertise? Yes—when the trees grow upside down, when the beggar wears a crown; when ice forms on the sur, when the sparrow weighs a ton; when gold dollars are too cheap, when women secrets keep; when a fish forgets to swim, when satan sings a hymn; when girls go back on gum, when the small boy hates the drum; when mince pies make pleasant dreams, when love is not what it seems; when it's fun to break a tooth, when all lawyers tell the truth; when cold water makes you drunk, when you like to smell skunk; when a drummer has brass, when these things come to pass, then the man that wise will cease to advertise.—Exchange.

God Bless These Women.

Not very long ago a girl in this city went wrong. In a confiding moment she gave her love to a man who pulled her down from pedestal of virtue into the mud. That is about what seventy-five per cent. of the average young men will do and then go and boast of it. Now what did the women do? Did they jump onto her and rend her? Not a bit. They put their heads together and declared that they would never cease their efforts until the girl was led back to the path of virtue. The girl was never a wanton from choice. She was a loving and dutiful child to her widowed mother. The girl is at home sewing, helping her mother and is happy. She has purchased a second-hand typewriter and has mastered it in thirty days. She is going to learn shorthand. There is no righter girl in Denison. If the kind ladies had not stretched forth a hand and plucked the brand from the burning fire, she would have probably landed in the lums of Chesnut street.—Denison Gazetteer.

All the new stock of the First National Bank has been taken by home men to the exclusion of foreigners, and on Jan. 1, 1903, the bank will start off with a capital of \$50,000 and a surplus of \$10,000. Many applications were made for stock by men of other places, but home capital was given preference in its disposition. With this addition to its capital the bank, which is already in the front ranks, can be expected to hump itself.

A Million Voices

Could hardly express the thanks of Homer Hall, of West Point, La. Listen why: A severe cold had settled on his lungs, causing a most obstinate cough. Several physicians said that he had consumption, but could not help him. When all thought he was doomed he began to use Dr. King's New Discovery for consumption and writes—"It completely cured me and saved my life. I now weigh 227 lbs." It's positively guaranteed for coughs, colds and lung troubles. Price 50c and \$1.00. Trial bottles free at Rust & Pittard's.

Go to Burroughs & Mann's for high grade flavoring extracts. Nutmeg, mace ginger, pepper, etc.

Anything in the drug or druggist sundry line at Burroughs & Mann's.

J. T. Warren this week sold to the Burton-Lingo Company what is known as the Barnes pasture of 505 acres, situated three miles east of town. The consideration was \$3,000, cash. This company has been looking out desirable ranch property, but has probably abandoned the project.

A. C. Bennett has sold his business house and lot, which includes the blacksmith shop, to Stephens Bros., of Rising Star, who, we understand, will improve the property and embark in business. Mr. Bennett is negotiating for other property and if the deal now pending is made will build a brick or rock business house.

A 10-pound boy was born to Mr. and Mrs. John Walker, south of town, Sunday.

Read all the new advertisements in this issue. They will afford interesting reading.

Thanksgiving in Merkel.

The day was pretty generally observed in Merkel, all the business houses except one or two, closing from 10:30 to 2. Services were held at the Presbyterian church by the Odd Fellows and others, which were in keeping with that spirit of thankfulness which should animate every heart upon this occasion. However elusive dame fortune has played with us, however meager has our proportionate share of the prosperity of the country been meted out to us as a people, or however great has been our sorrow and grief—still there are many little blessings to be thankful for, and due reverence should be given the occasion.

The usual number of turkeys were sacrificed and made to do penance for the spirit of the times.

A Musical Treat.

The Chicago Glee Club, which appeared at the Opera House Tuesday night, one day late, furnished the public with a high-class entertainment. It was a musical treat, such as few small towns are permitted to enjoy. In addition to the regular program, several additional selections were rendered, which elicited much praise and favorable comment, and the large audience showed its appreciation by frequent and hearty applause.

The next attraction will be the inimical Sam Jones, next Friday night week, Dec. 12. Tickets \$1.00.

Coming Jan. 8, "Sunshine Hawks." Get tickets now.

Mr. and Mrs. J. A. McMahan of Abilene visited the editor's family Sunday.

My friend, are you suffering from any painful and annoying skin disease, such as ringworm, tetter, eczema or anything similar? If so, just try one box of Hunt's Cure. It never fails. Guaranteed. Price 50c.

Rev. J. A. Lowry moved his family here from Roby last week and is occupying his residence in West Merkel. He has been given the Truby mission. Two of Bro. Lowry's brothers were here prospecting last week and may locate in this country.

The statement of the First National Bank, which was published last week, shows that institution to be in a highly prosperous condition and enjoying a remarkable growth. Hunt up paper and read it, if you have not already done so.

Rev. R. S. Heizer and family left last Thursday for their new home at Haskell, where they were stationed for the year. The many friends of the family will join The Mail in commending them to the good people of that goodly town, and in wishing for them a full measure of God's richest gifts.

Snowdrift—the best lard compound made—can be found only at Chenault & Hand's. Try a pail.

The Merkel Independent School Tax is now due and payable at my office.

John Elliott,
Tax Collector.

Perfumery: All odors, highest grades at Burroughs & Mann's.

Nice line of jewelry at Burroughs & Mann's going cheap.

You cannot afford to trifle with a cough. It may result in some serious if not fatal malady. Take time by the forelock and use Simmons' Cough Syrup. Guaranteed. Price 25 and 50c.

A gang is unloading new steel rails near here this week, en route west, and the track has been laid with these large rails as far as Clyde. The roadbed is greatly improved wherever the rails have been placed.

The announcement that Geo. Gould is a director in the Orient railroad has caused considerable comment up and down the line, and the opinion is generally expressed that this road will inevitably accrue to the Gould interests. It is stated that the Orient may use the T. & P. track between Sweetwater and Pecos, and many other rumors are afloat. If this consolidation, or purchase, or deal, or whatever it may be will result in better service over this road the people will feel deeply grateful.

Sam Jones' lectures this year abound in wit and wisdom of a high order and are free from any feature to which the faint-hearted can object. His appearance here will afford an opportunity to hear him which you may never have again, and the dollar spent in this way is returned with interest. Few towns Merkel's size have been honored with a visit from this greatest of all lecturers and divines.

At Opera House Friday night, Dec. 12. Seats on sale at Burroughs & Mann's drug store at \$1.00 each. They are going fast.

Now's the time to advertise.

Caesar Conquered Britain.

Malaria was conquered by Simmons' Liver Purifier (tin box.) Protected from moisture, dust and insects. Clears the complexion, cures constipation, aids and corrects action of the liver.

Don't buy your holiday goods until you inspect our stock; it will interest you. Will be opened up soon.

Burroughs & Mann.

Miss Prudence Allyn is visiting her sister, Mrs. Wallace, at Cisco, and will be gone a month.

What We Want,

We want a comb from the head of a fountain, a mit for the hand of fate, a boot for the foot of a mountain, a link from the chain of debate; a spoke from the wheel of fortune, a strap for the trunk of a tree, a tongue for the mouth of a river, a lock that will fit any quay, a drink from the breaker of sorrow, a look from the face of a storm, a stroke from the arm of Justice, a ring for the finger of scorn, a knock at the door of repentance, a throb from the ocean's heart, a glance from the eye of a needle and from Cupid's bow a dart.—Ex.

Pictures, size 16x20, with 4 inch frames, only \$1.25 at Browning's.

For Sale—Surry and harness, good as new; also a gentle, well broke mare. Cash or good notes.

J. A. Adkisson.

Lots of new goods to show you. If you want Watches, Rings, Charms, all kinds of Buttons, Silverware, etc., see Ustick.

Another Failure!

We failed to get moved last week. This gives you another Chance to get your Dry Goods, Clothing, Shoes and Hats at

10 per cent less than real value

Must reduce stock some before moving into new building. 10 per cent off of honest prices means something. Don't miss this sale.

J. T. WARREN!

**THE FORD'S
BLACK-DRAUGHT
FOR
CONSTIPATION**

Constipation is nothing more than a clogging of the bowels and nothing less than vital stagnation or death if not relieved. If every constipated sufferer could realize that he is allowing poisonous filth to remain in his system, he would soon get relief. Constipation invites all kind of contagion. Headaches, biliousness, colds and many other ailments disappear when constipated bowels are relieved. Theford's Black-Draught thoroughly cleans out the bowels in an easy and natural manner without the purging of calomel or other violent cathartics.

Be sure that you get the original Theford's Black-Draught, made by The Chattanooga Medicine Co. Sold by all druggists in 25 cent and \$1.00 packages.

Bogran, Ark., May 25, 1901.
I cannot recommend Theford's Black-Draught too highly. I keep it in my house all the time and have used it for the last ten years. I never gave my children any other laxative. I think I could never be able to work without it on account of being troubled with constipation. Your medicine is all that keeps me up.
C. B. McFARLAND.

Saved at Grave's Brink.

"I know I would have long ago been in my grave," writes Mrs. S. H. Newsom, of Decatur, Ala., "if it had not been for Electric Bitters. For three years I suffered untold agony from the worst forms of indigestion, waterbrash, stomach and bowel dyspepsia. But this excellent medicine did me world of good. Since using it I can eat heartily and have gained 35 pounds." For indigestion, loss of appetite, stomach, liver and kidney troubles Electric Bitters are a positive, guaranteed cure. Only 50c at Rust & Pittard's.

WEEDS

Consumption is a human weed flourishing best in weak lungs. Like other weeds it's easily destroyed while young; when old, sometimes impossible.

Strengthen the lungs as you would weak land and the weeds will disappear.

The best lung fertilizer is Scott's Emulsion. Salt pork is good too, but it is very hard to digest.

The time to treat consumption is when you begin trying to hide it from yourself. Others see it, you won't.

Don't wait until you can't deceive yourself any longer. Begin with the first thought to take Scott's Emulsion. If it isn't really consumption so much the better; you will soon forget it and be better for the treatment. If it is consumption you can't expect to be cured at once, but if you will begin in time and will be rigidly regular in your treatment you will win.

Scott's Emulsion, fresh air, rest all you can, eat all you can, that's the treatment and that's the best treatment.



We will send you a little of the Emulsion free.

Be sure that this picture in the form of a label is on the wrapper of every bottle of Emulsion you buy.

**SCOTT & BOWNE,
Chemists,
409 Pearl St., N. Y.
50c. and \$1; all druggists**

The Pride of Heroes.

Many soldiers in the last war wrote to say that for scratches, bruises, cuts, wounds, corns, sore feet and stiff joints, Bucklen's Arnica Salve is the best in the world. Same for burns, scalds, boils, ulcers, skin eruptions and piles. It cures or no pay. Only 25c at Rust & Pittard's.

You can pay \$5.00 for a Hat and be no better satisfied than with a HAWES for \$3.00. 4t

J. T. MOUNT,
Abilene, Texas.

NOTICE!

If you are hard to fit and want an up-to-date suit of clothes, do not fail to see the line of samples, one and one-half yards square, displayed at our store next Monday and Tuesday, Dec. 8 and 9th, by special Traveling Agent Oliver from Chicago. Fit absolutely guaranteed.

WATSON & BACON.

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

- MATTIE R. WITT, P. M.
Cordill, W T
Gardener, John
McDaniels, Will
Murphy, M A
Moore, J T
Rodrigz, Benito
Shields, J L
Thurman, M H

Do not fail to see our clothing display next Monday and Tuesday by special salesman. Price and fit guaranteed.

Watson & Bacon.

He Found a Cure.

R. H. Foster, 318 S. 2d Street Salt Lake City, writes: "I have been bothered with dyspepsia or indigestion for 21 years have tried many doctors with relief, but I have found a cure in Herbine. I recommend it to all my friends who are afflicted that way, and it is curing them too. 50c at Rust & Pittard's.

J. C. Brown is expecting his brother from Walla Walla, Wash., whom he has not seen for thirty years. He is looking forward with pleasure to the meeting.

We are sole agents for the celebrated HAWES Hats. The latest novelties in the Alpine and Derby. 4t

J. T. MOUNT,
Abilene, Texas.

Miss Annie King left Saturday for Dora to assume her duties in the school room. She will be greatly missed.

No equal on earth has Hunt's Lightning Oil for rheumatism and neuralgia, as well as sprains, cuts, burns, bruises, and insect bites and stings. Guaranteed. Price 25 and 50 cents.

Ustick has moved his jewelry store into the Thornton old building; call and see him.

Parents do not neglect your children's coughs, sore throats, colds, etc., they often lead to fatal results. Try Simmons' Cough Syrup. Pleasant, safe and sure. Guaranteed. Price 25 and 50c.

The Mail gives all the news.

..ALWAYS BUY THE BEST..

THE BEST GOES FARTHEREST

And when combined with Low Prices you have a combination that will win out.

In making our selections for this season we were careful in getting dependable goods only. It is best to buy the best, worthy goods at worthy prices. Two things that have made this store the most popular in this country: First, all that is latest, all that is good you find here. Second, our prices are absolutely the most reasonable. :-: Come to us and let us verify these statements to your own satisfaction. We can do it easily.

Our Goods Are Right! Our Prices Are Right!

Handsome Premiums Free.

We have filled a pint jar with beans and the first person guessing the number of beans the jar contains will get the premium, a ladies' watch, 25 year case, 15 jewel Waltham movement. Every purchase amounting to \$1 entitles you to a guess. In addition to this, with every 25c purchase of Dry Goods, Clothing, Shoes, etc., we give a coupon which is redeemable in Holiday Queensware. Look at them.

Yours for Fall Trade,

J. P. Sharp & Co.

THE FIRST NATIONAL BANK

OF MERKEL

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

**CAPITAL, \$30,000
SURPLUS, \$ 9,000**



Agreeable Business Relations may be Permanently Sustained only by the exercise of a spirit of Mutual Consideration, Fairness and Courtesy. We try to give our friends "value received for the business done with us. At the same time we want them to know that we appreciate their patronage, as well as the active interest they have shown in our general welfare.

Coughing Spell Caused Death.

"Harry Duckwell, aged 25 years, choked to death early yesterday morning at his home, in the presence of his wife and child. He contracted a slight cold a few days ago and paid but little attention to it. Yesterday morning he was seized with a fit of coughing which continued for some time. His wife sent for a physician but before he could arrive, another coughing spell came on and Duckwell died from suffocation.—St. Louis Globe-Democrat, Dec. 1, 1901."

Ballard's Horehound Syrup would have saved him. 25, 50c and \$1.00 at Rust & Pittard's.

A bran new Davis sewing machine worth \$65 for sale for \$35 cash or good note. Time to suit purchaser. Call at this office.

Ballard's Horehound Syrup

Immediately relieves hoarse, croupy cough, oppressed, rattling, rasping and difficult breathing. Henry C. Stearns, druggist, Shullsburg, Wis., writes, May 20, 1901: "I have been selling Ballard's Horehound Syrup for two years, and have never had a preparation that has given better satisfaction. I notice that when I sell a bottle, they come back for more. I can honestly recommend it. 25c, 50c and \$1.00 at Rust & Pittard's.

Holiday Goods.

Don't buy holiday goods until you have examined our stock. It is the largest and best we have ever carried.

Rust & Pittard.

J. B. Shackelford and Miss Minnie Porter were married at Abilene Sunday.

How to Prevent Croup.

It will be good news to the mothers of small children to learn that croup can be prevented. The first sign of croup is hoarseness. A day or two before the attack the child becomes hoarse. This is soon followed by a peculiar rough cough. Give Chamberlain's Cough Remedy freely as soon as the child becomes hoarse, or even after the rough cough appears and it will dispel all symptoms of croup. In this way all danger and anxiety may be avoided. This remedy is used by many thousands of mothers and has never been known to fail. It is in fact the only remedy that can always be depended upon and that is pleasant and safe to take. For sale by Rust & Pittard.

J. T. Warren is moving into his new building today.

A Great Sacrifice Sale!

Our \$60,000 Stock of brand New Dry Goods, Clothing, Boots and Shoes must be sold, yes sacrificed, regardless of what it cost. We have bought too many goods, are overstocked and in order to turn them into MONEY we are going to sacrifice them. This enormous stock was bought when "Cotton Prospects were better;" we anticipated a 30,000 bale crop, tho it will not reach more than half that, and so our object of this sacrifice sale is to turn our goods into CASH. It matters nothing to you whether we sell at cost or below. "Our loss is your gain;" we figure this way, that we would rather take cost and less than cost on many articles, rather than carry them over until next season. Remember this is no FAKE SALE, FLIM FLAM nor BLUFF, but we mean exactly what we say, we must turn our stock into money regardless of value. We have closed our Books and most positively will not Charge goods to any one until after Jan. 1, 1903. Not only a few LEADERS as a bait, but every article in our store is a LEADER. Our aim is not to make money, all we want to do, and must do, is to turn our stock into CASH regardless of what it COST. Read carefully the Price List below. BRING PRICE LIST WITH YOU and see if what we say is not the truth. Remember this sale lasts until Jan. 1, 1903.

Staple Department

Read carefully the sacrifice price in this department; compare them with our competitors' cost price and see if we don't offer them for less.

5000 yds calico, all standard brands, such as Simpson, Garners, American Indigo, in fact any piece of calico in our store, go at sale price 3½c

5000 yds L L brown sea island domestic, full yard wide, weighs 4 yds to the lb, goes at sale price 3½c

2000 yds zephyr gingham and toll du norde, no better gingham made, former price 12½, sale price 8c

2000 yds Amoskeag gingham in apron checks and dress styles, are cheap at 8½c, sale price 5c
50 yds table oil cloth in colored white and marble, former price 20, sale price 12½c

1200 yds Lonsdale and fruit of the loom domestic, was 10c, sale price 6¼c

1500 yds "Good as Gold" domestic, yard wide and positively no starch, was 8½c, sale price 5c

1000 yds clover brand bleach domestic, positively no starch, was 6½c, sale price 4c

900 yds dress gingham, new, neat patterns, formerly sold for 7½c, sale price 3½c

2000 yds Outing in solid colors, light and dark plaids, was 10c, sale price 7½c

1000 yds Knights finished cambric, was 8½c, sale price, 6c

1000 yds dress Outing, all this line sold for 6½, 7½ and 8½c, sale price 5c

10 pcs 10-4 brown pepperell sheeting, was 25c, sale price 17½

10 pcs 9-4 brown pepperell, was 22½c, sale price 16c

5 pcs 10-4 bleached pepperell, was 22½, sale price 18½c

5 pcs 9-4 bleached pepperell, was 25c, sale price 17½c

5 pcs good brown sheeting in 10-4, was a bargain at 20c, sale price 12½c

15 pcs ACA feather tick, was 16½c, sale price 10c

20 pcs good mattress tick, formerly sold for 7½ and 8c, sale price 5c

1500 yds brown cotton flannel,

extra heavy quality, was 12½c, sale price 8 1-6c

1500 yds brown cotton flannel, good heavy quality, was a bargain at 10c, sale price 5c

1000 yds good brown cotton flannel, was 7½ and 8c, sale price 5c

1000 yds cotton crash toweling, this is a hummer, was 6 and 7½c sale price 3½c

50 five lb calico rolls, this is what is known as the \$1.00 roll, go at sale price for 75c

Blankets and Comforts

Here is where we lose sight of cost and value. We are overstocked, hence the sacrifice.

Lot 1, 8 prs white all wool 12-4 California blankets, elegant goods and bordered in silk, were cheap at \$16, sale price \$11

Lot 2, 20 prs white, gray and tan, all wool 11-4 blankets, former price \$10, sale price \$6.30

Lot 3, 20 prs all wool 11-4 blankets, they were beauties for \$8, go at sale price \$3.85

Lot 4, 15 prs all wool 10-4 blankets, extra heavy weight, were \$5, sale price \$3.30

Lot 5, any of our all wool \$4.50 blankets go at sale price \$3.10

Lot 6, any of our all wool \$3.50 blankets go at sale price \$2.35

Lot 7, any of our \$2.50 blankets go at sale price \$1.71

Lot 8, any of our \$2 white and gray blankets go at \$1.37½

Lot 9, any of our \$1.75 and \$1.50 white and gray blankets go at \$1.10

Lot 10, any of our \$1.25 blankets go at sale price 85c

Lot 11, any of our \$1 blankets go at 70c

Lot 12, any of our 75c blankets go at 55c

Lot 13, any of our 50 and 65c blankets go at 38c

5 down comforts, silk Fullord tops, mercerized satteen bottom, elegantly stitched, were \$10, go at \$6.85

7 Down comforts, extra fine quality mercerized sateen, looks like fine satin, were \$5, sale price \$3.85.

All our \$3 50 cotton comforts go at sale price for \$2.20

All our \$2 50 cotton comforts go at \$1.75

All our \$2 comforts go at sale price \$1.27½

All our \$1.25 and \$1.50 comforts go at \$1.10

All our \$1 comforts go at .72½

All our 75c comforts go at sale price 55c

Clothes Department.

\$12,500 in Mens and Boys clothing and overcoats that must sacrificed, as we have to have money, and in order to reduce this stock we are going to lose sight of the cost and value. So here goes, all the clothing is bran new and bought direct from the manufactures:

\$20.00 Mens Overcoats at \$14.30

18 " " 13.00

16.50 " " 11.00

15 " " 10.45

13.50 " " 9.25

12.50 " " 7.42

10 " " 6.25

8.50 " " 5.50

7.50 " " 5.05

6.50 " " 4.40

5.00 " " 3.85

3.50 " " 2.20

\$22.00 Mens Suits 15.95

20.00 " " 13.75

17.50 " " 12.65

16.50 " " 11.00

15.00 " " 10.25

12.50 " " 8.80

10.00 " " 7.52

8.50 " " 5.85

7.50 " " 5.50

6.50 " " 4.35

5.00 " " 3.85

\$12.50 Boys long pans suits 7.40

10.00 " " 7.60

7.50 " " 5.50

6.50 " " 3.85

5.00 " " 3.30

4.00 " " 2.70

\$7.50 Knee Pants 4.95

6.50 " " 4.40

5.00 " " 3.85

4.50 " " 3.30

3.50 " " 3.20

2.00 " " 1.23

1.50 " " 1.10

1.25 " " .85

1.00 " " .70

.75 " " .55

Remember the prices above only gives you a faint idea of how we are sacrificing the prices on clothing, in addition to the above lot of clothing we have \$1,500 invested in Mens and Boys pants of every description that go in this sale at a great sacrifice. They like everything else must be turned into money.

Capes, Suits and Skirts.

Cloaks, Skirts and Tailor made

Suits—here is where we are also overstocked, and the greatest opportunity of your life to get a Suit, Skirt or Cloak at a sacrifice. Read carefully the prices:

\$20.00 Ladies Tailor Suits \$14.85

17.50 " " 11.95

15.00 " " 9.35

7.50 " " 5.50

10.00 Ladies Tailor Skirts 7.15

8.00 " " 5.50

6.50 " " 4.15

5.00 " " 3.85

4.50 " " 3.30

4.00 " " 2.75

3.50 " " 1.95

2.50 " " 1.75

1.50 " " 1.10

\$1750 Monto Carlo Coats 11.50

15.00 " " 9.35

12.50 " " 8.55

8.50 " " 5.50

7.50 Ladies New Jackets 4.15

5.00 " " 3.85

4.50 " " 3.30

4.00 " " 2.85

3.50 " " 2.25

We have a few odd lots in Ladies Jackets that formerly sold for \$1.50, \$2, and \$2.50, sale price .75, \$1 and \$1.35.

\$750 invested in Childrens and Misses cloaks & reefers, that must be sold regardless of cost or value, ask to see them.

Hat Department.

\$1500 in J. B. Stetson hats and they must be sold regardless of value, so here goes:

Our \$10 Stetson Hats go at \$7.70

8.00 " " 6.60

6.50 " " 4.95

6.00 " " 4.40

5.50 " " 4.15

5.00 " " 3.85

4.50 " " 3.58

4.00 " " 2.75

3.00 Thoroughbred hats 2.20

2.50 " " 1.58

2.00 " " 1.38

1.50 " " 1.10

1.25 " " .85

.75 " " .55

2.00 Boys hats go at 1.38

1.50 " " 1.10

1.25 " " .85

1.00 " " .70

.75 " " .55

.50 " " .30

.25 " " 18.

The hats mentioned above are all new styles and shapes. Don't fail to ask for them.

Abilene Dry Goods Co.,

Your Winter Bills...

TIME TO LOOSEN PURSE STRINGS

and get ready for fall buying. It is our ambition to serve the people well and satisfy them in every way.

We are not selling out at cost, but are here to stay and will meet any and all prices made; so when you get ready to make your fall bills come in and see us, for we are making greatly reduced prices on everything in Dry Goods Clothing, Shoes, etc.

J. O. HAMILTON

EASON & ROLLINS, BARBERS

Bath room in connection.
Your patronage solicited.

J. M. PATE, BARBER.

NORTH FRONT STREET.

First class work and prompt and polite attention to all.

J. J. MILLER,

Justice Peace and Notary Public

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

I. O. O. F. LODGE

No. 355 meets every Tuesday night. Visiting brethren cordially invited to attend.

N. HARRISON, N. G.
CHAS. CRAVEN, Sec.

H. C. WILLIAMS,

Real Estate and Insurance Agent
Notary Public

Takes Acknowledgments, Draws up Deeds, Etc.
OFFICE AT WARNICK'S BANK

G. H. RICHARDSON

Physician and Surgeon.

Residence, West Merkel.

DR. J. W. LITTLE,

Resident Dentist.

EXAMINATIONS FREE — OFFICE IN
FERRIER BUILDING.

LEEMAN & KING, Physicians & Surgeons

Diagnoses of Women and Children a Specialty.
Office, Burroughs & Mann's Drug Store.

MORE LIVES ARE SAVED

...BY USING...

Dr. King's New Discovery

...FOR...

Consumption, Coughs and Colds
Than by All Other Throat and Lung Remedies Combined.

This wonderful medicine positively cures Consumption, Coughs, Colds, Bronchitis, Asthma, Pneumonia, Hay Fever, Pleurisy, LaGrippe, Hoarseness, Sore Throat, Croup and Whooping Cough. **NO CURE, NO PAY.**

Price 50c & \$1. Trial Bottles Free.

W. W. WHEELER,

Real Estate, Life, Fire and Tornado Insurance Agent,
Notary Public.

Takes Acknowledgments, Draws up Deeds, etc.
Office in First National Bank.

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.

To The Public.

Those who have second-hand goods for sale take them to J. C. Watkins.

Ramblings Through Mexico.

By J. L. VAUGHAN.

May 28th. Back to the City of Mexico again. Early in the morning we visited the flower market. It is on the left side of the cathedral. Here we found a wonderful variety of flowers, made into bouquets and wreaths. Some of the wreaths or shields were made as large as a carriage wheel, made of violets, the different colors making the designs; others were made of roses, carnations, poppies or camellias, and they were very cheap, some fine wreaths being priced at two or three dollars. Mexican people are very fond of flowers, and at a funeral the "peon" must be very poor if he can not buy a few flowers to put on the coffin of his friend or relative. When a person of note dies the flower dealers do a rushing business. On the 23rd Gen. Escobeda, who captured Maximilian at Queretaro, died, and we saw many large wreaths and designs, carried by "Cargadores" through the streets to where the body lay in state.

NATIONAL ACADEMY OF FINE ARTS.

Two squares east from the cathedral we find the Academy of Fine Arts, founded by Charles III of Spain in 1778. It is commonly called "Academy of San Carlos." It is a large two story building enclosing a large court yard. At the entrance we were halted by an official who relieved us of our cameras, and after registering in a book were permitted to enter. Crossing the court yard we ascend the stone steps to the second story. At the landing are three very large paintings of religious subjects taken from the Convent of San Francisco when that order was suppressed by the government under Juarez in 1860. Turning to the right we pass a large room occupied by students. On the wall along the hall are specimens of drawings from the simplest straight lines and curves to the most intricate mechanical and ornamental designs, portraits and landscape sketches in crayon. Among the students we notice several young women also copying some designs, while a number of teachers were passing from one student to another giving instructions. This is the educational part of the institution. The government gives it a yearly allowance, also prizes to the most successful student. One of the attendants, a pleasant faced old

gentleman, volunteered to show us through the rooms. Turning to the right we enter room No. 1, which contains a collection of pictures from the "Old Mexico School." They are mostly on religious subjects, differing but little from paintings we saw in the cathedral and other churches.

Room No. 2—"Old Mexico School" is also mostly religious subjects. Some of them are quite large and many very old. No. 76, "The Virgin of the Apocolypoc," by Cabrera, is a very striking picture.

Room No. 3—"European masters of various schools in originals and copies." No. 9 in this room, "StJohn the Baptist in the Desert," is said to be a Murillo. An unfinished picture by Reubens is No. 75, Burial of Christ. No. 123, "StJohn of the Lord," is a Murillo.

Room No. 4—Here we come to modern art, many of the by Mexican artists. The landscapes are very fine, especially those of the Valley of Mexico. No. 5, Park of Chapultepec. No. 20, Valley of Mexico. This is splendid and shows the mountains and volcanoes. A young student was copying a corner of this picture. Another view from Lake Chalco is a charming bit of Mexican scenery. On No. 20 a common feature of a Mexican landscape in dry weather, a "dust whirlwind" (romolino) is shown in perfection. These whirlwinds are not funnel shaped like in the north, but go almost straight up, nearly to the clouds, and are the same thickness all the way up, looking like a pillar of sand or smoke. So perfect is this painted on this picture one will almost look to see the whirlwind pass across the landscape.

Room No. 5—Pictures by various masters.

Room No. 6—"Modern Mexican art." Around the border of the ceiling in this room are portraits of the world's celebrated men—statesmen, scientists, artists, and historians.

"Columbus at the Royal Court after the discovery of America" is a large and interesting picture.

Between rooms No. 6 and 7 is a large picture, "The Torture of Cuauhtemoc." When Cortez finally captured the Aztec warrior prince the Spaniards not find treasure enough to satisfy them, so they put Cuauhtemoc and the old chief of Tabuca to torture by placing their feet over dishes of

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burning coals. The picture represents the old chief not able to bear torture any longer, looking toward Cuauhtemoc as if to ask him to tell, but the prince simply replied, "Am I taking my morning bath?" The coloring is fine and the expression of pain on the features of the unfortunate prisoners is intense, while the Spaniards in coats of mail and helmets

coolly look on, expecting to see where the Cortez wealth is hidden. J. L. V.

(Continued next week.)

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