

THE MERKEL MAIL.

VOL. XIII.

MERKEL, TEXAS, DECEMBER 11, 1902.

NO. 43.

AT COST!

Until January 1st

We offer our entire stock of Men's and Boys' Clothing, Ladies' Jackets, Capes and Skirt at ACTUAL COST.

10 to 20 per cent Reduction on all Woolen Dress Goods.

Best Calicos at Only 4 cents per yard.

Best Table Oilcloth Only 15 cents per yard.

Extra Quality Mens' Fleece Underwear 50 cents each.

We Guarantee our Prices to be as Low as the Lowest.

The Star Store.

The Chosen Path.

BY MARGUERITE MONDIE.

(Copyright, 1902, by Daily Story Pub. Co.)

In a state of absent-mindedness she had allowed her maid the "night off." This left her alone in the great stately mansion, but she did not seem to feel her isolation for some time.

First she bathed her face and hands in cologne, took down her elaborately dressed hair and slipped on a loose Oriental lounging-robe. Her fingers heavy laden with pearls glittered and their reflection was caught in the many mirrors.

She walked up to one of them and glanced proudly at her face. It looked young and very fair in the soft red glow from the fire-place, then with a sudden movement and the snap of a button, the room was flooded with cold, hard electric light.

She pressed her face close to the glass. It looked white and tired now. Great black circles shadowed beneath the lashes and a fine but very intricate web of wrinkles overspread the features—lines of dissipation, unhappiness and weary dissatisfaction. The lips were almost unnaturally red and had an odd trick of twitching at the corners.

She shrank from her own reflection and sharply smote the bell on the table; it rang clearly and had the unmistakable sound of solid silver. Two or three rings brought no response, the little gold mantel clock ticked musically, but no other sound disturbed the stillness.

"Ah—" she sighed. "They are all out. What a relief!"

But she did want something to warm her and take away the chill the sight of her face had brought. So she went softly down the wide, carpeted stairs into the dining-room. She smiled sardonically when she saw the bottles and glasses placed so handily.

Steadily she poured out a full glass of the clear liquor. Posing it daintily she looked at it with the eye of a connoisseur then drained the contents and set the glass down, just as the door bell rang.

She was to have been ready at nine, but somehow the afternoon's round of " teas" and "at homes" and the evening's long solemn dinner had made her late on the rose-covered veranda. At least so thought "Monsieur" as his carriage came up the drive.



Glanced proudly at her face.

He was proud of his handsome wife and her fame in society, but he was not sure of her love for him. Yet, what did it matter? He was old enough to be her father and she always was kind to him and willing to please. That was enough. He entered the house unobserved by Merle intending to surprise her at luncheon. Until then he would rest and read in the library.

Hal was such a well-known caller that the butler announced him to Merle on the veranda. He went up to her eagerly, murmuring a few loving words. She was Merle no longer to him, but cold Madam, as she greeted him calmly. A burning blush stole over her face, however, as he clasped her tightly in his arms and kissed her passionately. For one moment she lay passive against his breast, then sprang from his embrace and faced him hotly.

"How dare you! How dare you!" the words came sharply between gasps from her red perfect lips, then they sank to a low, vibrating whisper: "Hal, Hal, my love."

She was gone. Hal sat down and thought deeply and bitterly.

Merle went straight to the library when she left Hal. She stood stone still when she saw her husband there. Struggling fiercely to master her emotion she walked up to him and put

her arms around his neck.

"I am so glad, dearie, you've come back. I missed you, honestly, I did. Come into the garden, it is so lovely, the sun is so bright to-day."

She clung to his arm as they walked up the garden path that led to the boudoir veranda where Hal sat. The roses grew so thick that they were almost hidden from sight, but Hal could hear their voices.

"Dearie—" Merle was saying in a strained, shrill voice. "I wish you would be more of a lover to me. Sometimes I almost think you do not love me, and—and—" the voice faltered then rose sharply—"I—love you—dearie."

An hysterical laugh echoed the hollowness and mockery of the last words. They stood silent for awhile, then after Merle had roughly broken off a rose and put it in his coat her husband spoke.

"Merle, this is nonsense. You could not love me and you must not speak so to me again, otherwise I shall grow to distrust you. Be the same dear lady you have been and I ask no more. I will leave you now. Meet me at luncheon, unless, dear, you have made other arrangements. Do not let me interfere with your pleasure."

"Yes," answered Merle. Then fired with a sudden resolve she cried desperately: "No. I am to lunch out to-day. I shall not see you until dinner."

Hal heard the last words with beating heart. He could not wait, but went out among the roses to meet his rose. He understood her words. She was to be his at last.

Her arms were full of roses as he met her. She held them so closely that here and there the cruel thorns had drawn the red rich blood. He caught her, roses and all, to his heart.

"Mine mine Merle, my darling, my very own forever," he whispered in her ear.

"Yes, yes. Did you hear? How cruel he was—I wanted to be true but you heard. It is not wrong now. No, it is not wrong now. Say it is not wrong. Say it, my love," Merle pleaded.

Thus their vows were pledged and she went with him out into the world. She did not then know what a path she had chosen, but in after years, gay, mad and long dark years, she understood and never forgot the roses and the rose garden.



..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 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 numbers.

Mischievous Mischief.

The wires of the telephone exchange were badly tangled Tuesday morning and no doubt many unkind words were said about the management because of the unsatisfactory service. But the truth of the matter is that some person or persons had been tampering with the wires and had tied them together and otherwise interfered with the service. The Mail does not believe that this was done with malice aforethought, but rather in a spirit of mischief. However, for the benefit of those who have been guilty of this conduct, we give below the law governing such offenses. Article 784 of the Penal Code of Texas reads as follows:

"If any person shall intentionally break, cut, pull or tear down, misplace or in any other manner injure any telegraph or telephone wire, post, machinery or other necessary appurtenances to any telegraph or telephone line or in any way wilfully obstruct or interfere with the transmission of messages along such telegraph or telephone line, he shall be punished by confinement in the penitentiary not less than two nor more than five years, or by fine of not less than one hundred nor more than two thousand dollars."

District Court News.

Monday the case of A. M. Sheppard vs. J. M. Faucett was called and went to trial; decision not yet reached.

Monday County Attorney Bledsoe in absence of District Attorney made application to the court on behalf of the State for a venire in the State vs. G. R. Pettis. The court set the case for Friday, Dec. 19th, and issued a venire for 150 jurors. All witnesses in this case are hereby notified of this date.

Tuesday the case of R. E. Tracy vs. T. & P. R. R., et al, was called and went to trial. This case will probably close Wednesday.

There are quite a number of cases on the docket to be disposed of and the entire term of four weeks will be consumed.

"Start Me."

"Start me!" cries little Alice from her perch in the swing. "I want to go high; start me!" "Somebody can't be always starting you," answered Tommy, half independent of her demands upon him, half desirous of giving her a bit of instruction. "Put your foot to the ground and start yourself."

It is the same story, the same every the world over. People are longing to mount high along many lines, but for the most part they are sitting still waiting for somebody to start them. They want to reach success in literature, in business or professional life, but they want to swing high from the first—to be pushed by some one's money, strength or name. Those who are really willing to begin with their feet on the ground and start themselves are comparatively few.

One who has been brought

much in contact with young people, young women especially, and has been endeavoring to help them, recently said that her greatest discouragement lay in the fact that they all wanted to begin at the top. They wanted at once the reputation, the pay and the patronage of those who had been long years in the work. They wanted to be pushed—a good strong push, that would set them flying at once—instead of putting their own feet to the ground and slowly working up for themselves.—Selected.

YES, YOU HAVE 10 DAYS more in which to get your suit at 25 per cent discount. Better come quick before they are all gone.

Watson & Bacon.

Finishing touches are being made to the depot, and Agent McCord will probably move in Saturday. The building shows up nicely and is an ornament to the town.

See our extra pants, the greatest bargains ever offered in this country. 25 per cent off of the marked price.

Watson & Bacon.

RIGID RULES!

No class of business requires more careful attention or insists upon more rigid rules than that of banking. It has always been our earnest endeavor to conform to these requirements. Safety first, Liberality next.

Warnick's Bank,
Merkel, Texas.

The First National Bank has just installed a Burroughs Adding machine, which is one of the most complete pieces of mechanism of all the labor saving devices. It will greatly facilitate the handling of the enormous business of the bank, and employees are jubilant over its acquisition.

A. C. and Will Bennett came in this morning from Gorman.

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.

Courtney Hunt of Alford, who is vice president of the Merkel Mercantile Co., was in the city this week, returning home Tuesday.

Ex-Speaker of the House Thos. B. Reed, is dead.

Try reading The Mail.

We make a specialty of handling only the best groceries fresh from the markets, and they are not old or musty when you get them. Give us a trial.

Chenault & Hand.

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

Chenault & Hand

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.

M. M. Leeman and wife came in from Floyd county last Monday and will spend the week visiting here. They seem well contented with their home up there. The climate has agreed with Mitchell remarkably well, making of him a second John L. Sullivan, and he is fleshier than for years.

The Mail gives all the news.

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, Quessware, 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.

During the Entire Month of December!

WE WILL SELL OUR ENTIRE STOCK REGARDLESS OF COST.

The season has been so backward and we have had so much rain and cotton has not opened, and there has been so many drawbacks one way and another that we find ourselves with twice as many goods as we ought to have this time of year. Now we must sell these goods, however great the sacrifice, and we will during this month sell our entire stock at MANUFACTURER'S COST, and, in many cases, far below what they cost to manufacture. Remember everything in the house goes in this sale. Nothing will be reserved. Read the prices and judge for yourself.

Dress Goods	Staple Department	Shoes! Shoes!	they will be sacrificed during this sale. See our prices and compare with others
This is the department in which we shine, but we have entirely too many this year. So we cut the profit all off, and they go at manufacturers' cost.	30 yards calico for \$1.00	Our ladies \$3.50 shoe at \$2.85	Our \$16.50 men's suits go at \$10.80
Half wool worsted worth 10c at 6c	30 yards cotton checks for 1.00	" 3.00 " at 2.50	Our 15.00 men's suits go at 10.80
Half wool double width worsted, the 20c grade, at 10c	25 yards outing for 1.00	" 2.50 " at 2.00	Our 13.50 men's suits go at 9.00
Our 25c wool dress goods at 18c	25 yards good brown domestic for 1.00	" 2.00 " at 1.40	Our 12.50 men's suits go at 7.80
" 35c " " at 22c	25 yards bleach domestic for 1.00	" 1.75 " at 1.20	Our 10.00 men's suits go at 7.00
" 50c " " at 33c	20 yards good canto flannel for 1.00	" 1.50 " at 1.00	Our 9.00 men's suits go at 6.00
" 75c " " at 48c	Good wool fill jeans 18c	Our misses 1.75 " at 1.35	Our 7.50 men's suits go at 5.00
" \$1.00 " " at 66c	Zephyr gingham, 12 1/2 c grade 7c	" 1.50 " at 1.20	Our 6.00 men's suits go at 4.50
" 1.25 " " at 90c	Jaber Knights cambric, 8 1/2 c grade 6c	" 1.00 " at 80c	Our 5.00 men's suits go at 3.25
		Baby shoes 75c, 50c and 35c	Our 8.50 boys' suits go at 6.15
			Our 7.50 boys' suits go at 5.40
			Our 6.00 boys' suits go at 4.65
			Our 5.00 boys' knee suits go at 3.60
			Our 4.50 boys' knee suits go at 3.00
			Our 2.50 boys' knee suits go at 1.50
			Our 1.50 boys' knee suits go at 1.20
			Our 1.25 boys' knee suits go at 75c

We still have a nice line of Tailor made suits for ladies. We will almost give them away. Our \$13.50 tailor made suits at \$8.40 " 10.00 " " at 6.00 " 7.50 " " at 4.25

Linen Department

Our \$1.25 table linen at 90c " 1.00 " at 75c " 75c " at 50c " 50c " at 35c " 35c " at 20c Towels, bed spreads and toweling at one-half off.

Clothing for Men and Boys

We probably show as large stock of clothing in all the new weaves and colors as any house in Abilene, and

We cannot begin to give you prices of the entire stock, but if you will come and see us we will convince you that we will do all we say.

: Rollins & Young.

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.

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. R'y Co., Dallas, Texas.

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.

G. F. Robeson and Miss May Wilson of Caps were married Sunday.



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

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 at discount of 20 per cent. Everything new. Come quick.

Mrs. F. B. Hoople.

Cheap Watches.
Open face Silverine case, 7 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.

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.

Fashions come and go. What then? HAWES Hats are worn by a million men.
J. T. MOUNT,
Abilene, Texas.

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

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....
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Just received, a new lot of Dry Goods and Shoes. Some new things in dress goods. Watson & Bacon.
Photo's—All kinds, from stamps up to 16x20. Open Fridays and Saturdays. Barnhill and Wife.

The Merkel Mail

ED J. LEEMAN, Editor and Prop'r.

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

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

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

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

A short time ago two Houston newspapermen were fined and jailed for publishing the proceedings of a murder trial. The judge in assessing their punishment said that the publicity thus given to the trial would tend to prejudice the people against the defendant, and that by enlightening the people on the evidence adduced at the trial would make it impossible to secure another jury in the event of a mistrial or continuance of the case. This is a display of judicial authority never before equalled in the State. It is placing a premium upon ignorance by reason of the fact that well informed men would be denied a seat in the jury box. This learned judge perhaps never reasoned that it is the enlightened, and not the ignorant and superstitious, who can be convinced by intelligent and logical deductions. The well informed man is convinced by the evidence in the case and not by impressions he may have previously formed. This assumption of authority on the part of the judge should be roundly condemned, not so much for its curtailment of free speech as for the dangerous precedent which it sets. Jury decisions should be marked by intelligence and not ignorance. Enlightenment is the bulwark of American freedom.

Let our farmers practice rigid economy next year, and prosperity will heap its blessings upon them. Two short crops in succession is enough to discourage even the stout hearted, but there is a wonderful amount of stamina in the average westerner and they won't be downed. Nearly every farmer has made enough to pay for his keeping this year. Economy should be the watchword next year.

The President's message in some paragraphs is full of meat, while in others it forms a conglomeration of words and phrases that makes its digestion a serious contemplation. From the standpoint of a Republican it is perfect, but speaking from a Democratic standpoint there are many things to be ignored. And when this is said all is said.

Merkel's growth right now is pleasant contemplation for denizens of the town. It is gradual and substantial, nothing mushy about it.

In contemplating the products to be cultivated next year don't overlook the hog, the greatest money maker of them all. Plant hogs.

Get ready to plant everything that can be grown on the farm. Don't wait for prosperity; make it yourself.

The attitude of the President on the trust issue was to be expected. The Republican party thrives on a daily diet of trust products gratuitously distributed.

Texas Congressmen.

Texas sends a solid Democratic delegation to Congress, as follows:

- 1st District, Sheppard.
- 2nd District, Cooper.
- 3rd District, Russell.
- 4th District, Randal.
- 5th District, Beall.
- 6th District, Field.
- 7th District, Gregg.
- 8th District, Ball.
- 9th District, Burgess.
- 10th District, Burleson.
- 11th District, Henry.
- 12th District, Gillespie.
- 13th District, Stephens.
- 14th District, Slayden.
- 15th District, Garner.
- 16th District, Smith.

Cotton Crop Estimate.

Below we give the estimate on the cotton crop for the year 1902-03 as compiled by J. M. Ayer & Co. of New York:

Alabama	1,040,000
Arkansas	865,000
Florida	90,000
Georgia	1,360,000
Louisiana	955,000
Mississippi	1,270,000
N. C. and Virginia	575,000
South Carolina	960,000
Tennessee, Mo. &c	430,000
Texas, I. T., Okla.	2,885,000
Total	10,400,000

A Wise Member.

Managers Berry & Leeman of the Merkel Opera House have secured on a guarantee C. B. Marvin's furiously funny musical farce comedy, "A Wise Member," presented by the original New York cast in its entirety. This company does not, as a rule, play the smaller towns and it is owing to their having an open date that the theater goers of this city are to have this exceptional treat. Criticisms from larger cities, especially Denver, which they have played recently, speak in highest terms of both company and play, characterizing the latter as a "whirlwind of fun without one serious moment, interspersed with music and specialties of a high class variety, full of the delightful elements that distinguish real farce comedy from the horse-play variety of amusement."

The following is a vow which if taken and fulfilled will go far toward broadening any character: "I will subdue self; I will live for others; those faculties with which I am endowed, which were given me for the complete working out of a worthy destiny, shall be developed with a view to the upbuilding and uplifting of humanity. My thoughts shall ever soar upward and shall ever dwell on the highest ideals." This will repay anyone's effort to memorize.

Would Divide New York.

Hugh McLaughlin, the veteran Democratic leader in Brooklyn, insists that he is in earnest in suggesting that New York be divided into two states. "Why not?" says he. There is money enough and land enough for four, but two will do. The farmers of New York demand the right to govern the state, while the people of New York city pay the taxes. If we split the state in two everyone would be satisfied. Let one of them be established above Albany and the other below it. Each commonwealth could then govern itself according to its own ideas."

THE FIRST NATIONAL BANK

OF MERKEL

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

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.

Little Feet.
 Two little feet, so small that both may nestle
 In one caressing hand;
 Two tender feet upon the untried border
 Of life's mysterious land;
 Dimpled and soft, and pink as peach
 tree blossoms
 In April's fragrant days—
 How can they walk among the briery
 tangles
 Edging the world's rough ways?
 Those rose-white feet along the doubtful
 future
 Must bear a woman's load;
 Alas! since woman has the heaviest burden,
 And walks the hardest road.
 Love, for awhile, will make the path
 before them
 All dainty, smooth and fair,
 Will cut away the brambles, letting
 only
 The roses blossom there;
 But when the mother's watchful eyes
 are shrouded
 Away from sight of men,
 And these dear feet are left without her
 guiding,
 Who shall direct them then?
 How will they be allured, betrayed, de-
 luded,
 Poor little untaught feet?
 Into what dreary mazes will they wan-
 der?
 What dangers will they meet?
 Will they go stumbling blindly in the
 darkness
 Of sorrow's fearful shades?
 Or find the upland slopes of peace and
 beauty,
 Whose sunlight never fades?
 Will they go tolling up ambition's sum-
 mit,
 The common world above?
 Or in some nameless vale, securely shel-
 tered,
 Walk side by side with love?
 Some feet there be which walk life's
 track unwounded,
 Which find but pleasant ways;
 Some hearts there be to which this
 world is only
 A round of happy days.
 But they are few. Many there are who
 wander
 Without a hope or friend,
 Who find their journey full of pains
 and losses,
 And long to reach the end.
 How shall it be with her, the tender
 stranger,
 Fair-faced and gentle-eyed,
 Before whose unstained feet the world's
 rude highway
 Stretches so strange and wide?
 Ah! who may read the future? For our
 darling
 We crave all bigasings sweet,
 And pray that He who feeds the cry-
 ing ravens
 Will guide the baby's feet.

The Best is the Cheapest.

Not how cheap, but how good, is the question.

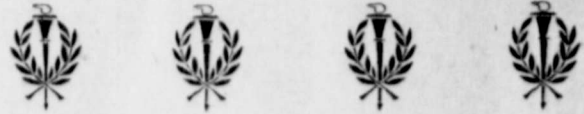
The Twice-a-Week Republic is not as cheap as are some so-called newspapers. But it is as cheap as it is possible to sell a first-class newspaper. It prints all the news that is worth printing. If you read it all the year round, you are posted on all the important and interesting affairs of the world. 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.

Mr. and Mrs. J. W. Hill have a fine boy at their home, born Monday.

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



MERKEL OPERA HOUSE.

ONE MERRY NIGHT..... **DEC. 13.**
 SATURDAY.....

MARVIN'S

FURIOUSLY FUNNY MUSICAL FARCE COMEDY
A WISE MEMBER



"YOU HAVE SPOILED A GOOD THING"

**A WHIRLWIND OF FUN
 CYCLONE OF MIRTH
 TORNADO OF LAUGHTER**

**PRETTY GIRLS
 CATCHY MUSIC
 CLEVER PEOPLE**

This Company comes on an Absolute Guarantee—an Attraction of REAL MERIT.

Seats on sale at Burroughs & Mann's Drug Store. Don't miss it!

Great Street Carnival

Abilene, Texas

DECEMBER 18, 19, 20, '02

Pain's Famous Manhattan Beach
 Fire Display, Free Each Night. Side
 Shows and Opera Attractions Galore.
 Railroad Excursion Rates and Special
 Trains From the West.

Love and Home.

The affection that binds a man to the place of his birth are essential to his nature and follow the same law as that which governs every innate feeling. They are implanted in his bosom along with life, and are modified by every circumstance which he encounters from the beginning to the end of his existence. The sentiment which, in the breast of any one man, is an instinctive fondness for the spot where he draw his early breath, becomes by the progress of mankind and the formation of society, a more enlarged feeling and expands into the noble passion of patriotism.

The love of country, the love of the village where we were born, of the field where we first pressed with our tender footsteps, of the hillock which we first climbed, are the same affection. Only the latter belongs to each of us separately, the first can be known but men united into masses. It is founded upon every advantage which a nation is supposed to possess, and is increased by every improvement which it is supposed to receive.—Selected.

Liquid Veneer, makes old things new. Best thing for Furniture, Pianos, Bicycles, Carriages, fine woodwork, etc., at Browning's.

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.

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.

Photo's—All kinds, from stamps up to 16x20. Open Fridays and Saturdays.
Barnhill and Wife.

Sam Sheppard and Selma Russell returned last week from Arizona. They seemed glad to get back again. There's no place like home, anyway, especially when that home is in Merkel.

Rev. Sam Jones lectured at the auditorium of the City Hall last night. He was not only eloquent, but was original. He did not think as other men did. He does not think as other men do. Solomon said there was nothing new under the sun, but Solomon in all his glory never saw or heard Sam Jones.—Dallas News.

District Court.

The special term of district court convened here Monday with Judge S. P. Hardwicke presiding. The civil docket was taken up and three cases disposed of as follows: T. D. Viman vs. G. M. Lowe et al, appeal to try title, judgment plaintiff.

s. Z. E. Ebbersol vs. A. L. sol, divorce, granted.

-Carpio vs. Mattie N. divorce, granted.

Following orders were made on criminal docket:

State vs. Thomas Landreth, ft, passed to third week.

State vs. G. R. Pettis, murder, ssed to second week.

State vs. J. C. Coons, arson, ssed to third week.

State vs. W. B. Craig, disposing of mortgaged property, bonded to \$200 and passed for term.

State vs. S. L. Patterson, murder, continued for term.

Judge Hardwicke was elected to preside in the absence of Judge Lindsey, whose health would not permit his attendance. Judge G. H. Goodson of Comanche will be here Monday to take Judge Hardwicke's place.—News.

An editor is a millionaire without money, a congressman out of job, a king off a throne. He instructs without saw or hammer, builds railroads without wheels or rails, and farms without a plow. He runs a butcher shop in the journalistic world, sells out brains cheap for cash credit. He loves those who advertise with him as he loves himself. The editor is a teacher, a lawyer, a preacher, and he sends out truths to save souls and gets lost himself. He heals the wounded, cares for the dying, and rescues the perishing and starves himself when a ham sandwich would jerk him from the jaws of death.—Ex.

For nice, fresh groceries cheap see

Chenault & Hand,

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.

Rev. Young, the new Methodist preacher, occupied the pulpit Sunday, morning and night. His sermons created favorable comment and the church seems delighted with him. Rev. Young's family has arrived from a visit east and are snugly domiciled at the parsonage, where a warm welcome awaited them.

The Mail was informed over the phone Saturday evening that C. M. Largent was seriously afflicted, but later reports only went to show that he was hilariously celebrating the advent of a 12-pound boy, who had taken up permanent quarters at the ranch. We hope he will live over it, and extend congratulations.

G. W. Boyce is moving his house to town, which he will tear down and remodel generally, and it is to be erected on the southeast corner of the French block. The changes as contemplated will give him a nice home.

Bernie Hill and a young man by the name of Walker, who lives at Trent, became involved in a difficulty Saturday evening in which the former was hit over the head with a billiard cue and considerably bruised up. Judge Wheeler refereed the last round by assessing the usual fine and trimmings to ease the court's wrath.

J. T. Warren moved into his new store building Thursday and now has things about straightened out. It is a pleasure to do business in such comfortable quarters.

If you like a good cup of coffee try one of our buckets for \$1.00.
J. T. Warren.

Mr. and Mrs. Ed Tracy were in from the ranch Saturday.

About 3,000 bales of cotton have been weighed at the yard so far this season, which is practically the bulk of the crop. Perhaps 4,000 will be the limit, against about 3,600 last season. This goes to show that the average yield per acre will be about the same as last year, though when the increased acreage is considered it will fall a little short. However, feed crops were immense, and farmers generally are in better shape than they were a year ago.

Great Street Carnival.

Abilene is going to have a grand street carnival Dec. 18, 19 and 20. Pains Famous Manhattan Beach Fire Display will be given free each night. Numbers of side show attractions have been engaged and the city will be alive with fun. Special trains will be run into Abilene from Big Springs each morning and tickets for round trip will be sold at reduced rates. This wonderful fire exhibit is worth going hundreds of miles to see. Make your arrangements to spend a couple of days at the carnival.

New House! New Goods! ...Old Stand...

We are glad to state that we are back on our old stand once more for business.

Before we ask for more business we want to thank the people of Merkel and surrounding country for the business given us on this corner heretofore. We appreciate, too, their trade this year, though we were not in a position to take care of it as we would like to have done. We have the room now in which to carry more goods, can buy in larger quantities, and get the benefit of quantity prices, which is quite an item. We would like a share of your business.

We deal in good, honest merchandise at a reasonable profit, and extend all favors consistent with sound business.

J. T. WARREN.

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.

We have a fine green Pea Berry coffee at 7½ lbs. to \$1.
J. T. Warren.

Stockholders Meeting.

The stockholders of the First National Bank of Merkel, Texas, are hereby notified that the regular meeting of the stockholders of said bank for the election of directors for the ensuing year, and such other business as may come before it, will be held at office of said bank in Merkel, Texas, Tuesday, January 13th, A. D., 1903.

Respectfully,
GEO. S. BERRY, Cashier.

Will Provine came in from the Panhandle last week.

Mesdames Dr. Leeman and J. L. Mann went to Abilene Saturday.

Geo. S. Berry and T. J. Coggin went to Abilene Sunday.

Manager Thompson of the "Wise Member," an opera troupe of 10 members which is playing in all of the large cities, was in Merkel Saturday and made arrangements for the presentation of the play here next Saturday night. This will be the smallest town the company has ever booked, and everybody should attend the performance.

Best assortment of gloves we have ever shown, lined and unlined.

J. T. Warren.

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.

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

To The Public.

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

For a limited time we offer 5 sacks of Peace-Maker Flour for \$5 or 10 sacks for \$10. Spot cash.

J. T. Warren.

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

See our line of dress shirts. We carry McDonalds.

J. T. Warren.

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

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.

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

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

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

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

FOUND!

A PLACE FOR OUR
NEW GOODS

We are putting in a complete stock of Groceries at the Warren old stand. We are making close prices. All our Groceries are high grade, one price to all, spot cash. Get our Prices. Phone 25.

MAXWELL & SONS.

MERKEL, TEXAS.

THE D F O R D ' S BLACK-DRAUGHT THE ORIGINAL LIVER MEDICINE

A sallow complexion, dizziness, biliousness and a coated tongue are common indications of liver and kidney diseases. Stomach and bowel troubles, severe as they are, give immediate warning by pain, but liver and kidney troubles, though less painful at the start, are much harder to cure. Theford's Black-Draught never fails to benefit diseased liver and weakened kidneys. It stirs up the torpid liver to throw off the germs of fever and ague. It is a certain preventive of cholera and Bright's disease of the kidneys. With kidneys reinforced by Theford's Black-Draught thousands of persons have dwelt immune in the midst of yellow fever. Many families live in perfect health and have no other doctor than Theford's Black-Draught. It is always on hand for use in an emergency and saves many expensive calls of a doctor.

Mullins, S. C., March 10, 1901.
I have used Theford's Black-Draught for three years and I have not had to go to a doctor since I have been taking it. It is the best medicine for me that is on the market for liver and kidney troubles and dyspepsia and other complaints. Rev. A. G. LEWIS.

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.

Sick Blood

Feed pale girls on Scott's Emulsion.

We do not need to give all the reasons why Scott's Emulsion restores the strength and flesh and color of good health to those who suffer from sick blood.

The fact that it is the best preparation of Cod Liver Oil, rich in nutrition, full of healthy stimulation is a suggestion as to why it does what it does.

Scott's Emulsion presents Cod Liver Oil at its best, richest in strength, least in taste.

Young women in their "teens" are permanently cured of the peculiar disease of the blood which shows itself in paleness, weakness and nervousness, by regular treatment with Scott's Emulsion.

It is a true blood food and is naturally adapted to the cure of the blood sickness from which so many young women suffer.

We will be glad to send a sample to any sufferer. 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., New York.

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.

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

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."

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

J. T. MOUNT,
Abilene, Texas.

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 25c and 50 cents.

Sam Jones' Date Cancelled.

Cartersville, Ga., Dec. 12, 1902. Geo. S. Berry: Sudden death of brother and my sickness makes postponement of lecture necessary. Sam P. Jones.

The above telegram is self-explanatory. And now for a few remarks in the premises.

Last August Mr. Berry contracted with the Southern Lyceum Bureau for the appearance of the attractions, which have heretofore been announced. The first attraction owing to sickness was unable to fulfill its engagement as advertised, but appeared a day late. From the above it will be seen that the second attraction has been postponed. In explanation we can only say that it is through no fault of the Bureau nor of the management that the attractions were not pulled off. Therefore the criticisms, past and present, which the management have been compelled to put up with, are uncalled for, to say the least.

Mr. Berry has written the Bureau, and will announce either a future date of Jones' appearance, or a cancellation of the entire course. In the event of the latter, all tickets which have been sold will be redeemed in cash.

Some of the young men are endeavoring to organize a brass band and will soon give an entertainment to help meet the expense of the organization. There is plenty of talent in Merkel. Encourage the move.

Plenty of bran and corn chops at J. P. Sharp & Co.'s.

..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.

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. 25c, 50c and \$1.00 at Rust & Pittard's.

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

Those Who Love Us.

Under this head will be given, each week, a list of subscribers who have paid their subscriptions to The Mail. It will answer as a receipt:

J. C. Crowell, Paragould, Ark.,	\$.50
by Mrs. Warnick,	
C L McNeese, Merkel	1.00
S D Marlow, "	1.00
D E Compton, "	1.25
G W Boyce, "	.50
J H Thornton, Abilene	1.00
Olan Balch, Venus	.50
J B Ferrier, Merkel	1.00
J C Brown, "	1.00
H B Chambliss, "	1.00
W A Moon, "	1.00
W A Barnhill, "	1.00
S P Martin, "	1.25
W A Campbell, "	1.00
Miss Mattie West, Tenn.,	1.00
by W A C	

Get your name on this list.

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.

Rev. Joe Jones, brother of Rev. Sam P. Jones, died in Georgia Sunday. Many of our people will remember him, he having held a meeting in this county a few years ago.

Corn! Corn! A car to arrive at J. P. Sharp & Co.'s next week.

A Happy-Making Gift.

Sunshine is surely one of the best gifts of nature. It is beautiful in itself, as the gold of the land of Havilah and of Ophir, and it makes beautiful all that it touches. It is beneficent beyond measure, purifying, healing, life-giving and reviving. All things animate and inanimate, rejoice in its cheer. The night has passed, the clouds on the mountain side have gone, the mists and fogs of the valley flee away. It clears the air so that one sees so far and distinctly. It is opening our rosebuds and geraniums in the borders with a glad surprise. It comes into the chamber to help the healing of the sick one and cheer his anxious heart. "Light is good for the eyes and a pleasant thing it is to

behold the sun."

Sunshine in human form is a happy and a happy-gift. What a blessing cheerful friend! He goes tling or singing to his work and does better work for his cheerfulness. He does not add to our burdens by a gloomy face. Our sunshine comes from a heart at rest, and there is a conscience clear, and faith that opens door for the light of God, it real, and pure and lasting. This is always a bright side. We seek the gladness of which ever comes in life and go singing all our days, from a deep, swell of love and joy that God opened in the heart. This God's will for us all! "Light sown for the righteous and gladness for the upright in heart." Central Presbyterian.

League Program-

Subject—Our Fellowship, I 133:1-3, I Cor. 12:12-27.

Leader—W. L. Harkrider. Song and prayer. Scripture lesson by leader. Song.

Reading—I Sam. 18:4—M Duncan Browning, II Cor. 8:1 1-6, 17-20—Miss Laura Herr, Phil. 4:1-9 Miss Allie Jennie, Acts 4:32-37—Comer Clay, John 1:1-7—Miss Eva Wilk.

Song. Goodness of Fellowship—Miss Edith Ereemon.

Pleasantness of Fellowship—Miss Eva Merchant.

Fruitfulness of Fellowship—Miss Effie Barnes.

Strength of Fellowship—Miss Clara Browning.

Paul's Argument for Fellowship—Mrs. Sewell.

Song. Benediction by leader.

December 14th, 1902.

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 ginghams and toll du norde, no better ginghams made, former price 12½, sale price 8c

2000 yds Amoskeag ginghams 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 6½c

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 ginghams, 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 ordered in silk, were cheap at \$5 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 \$6, 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 flord tops, mercerized satteen bottom, elegantly stitched, were \$10, go at \$6.85

7 Down comforts, extra fine quality mercerised satteen, 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

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

1.50 " " 1.75

1.10 " " 1.10

\$17.50 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 \$3.50, 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.

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Ramblings Through Mexico.

By J. L. VAUGHAN.

NATIONAL ACADEMY OF FINE ARTS.

Room No. 7. No. 1 in this room is titled "La Caridad Romana (Roman Charity), which, I think, is a misnomer; it should be called Filial Devotion. Many years ago I read the history of this subject, which runs something like this: An old Roman was condemned to prison to die of starvation, but if he lived over a certain length of time he was to be set at liberty. His daughter, a young matron, visited him every day, and the guards would search her for food, but found none. Still the prisoner lived on and was finally set at liberty, all wondering at the vitality of the old man. Some thought it was a miracle, but the secret was, the young mother had weaned her babe and from her breast the father had drawn sufficient nourishment to sustain life. The picture is by Luis Conroy. No. 6, "Cortez Before Moctezuma," by J. Ortega, is very fine. The barbaric splendor of the Aztec court no doubt excited the cupidity of the Spaniards. No. 14—"Brother Bartolome de las Casas, Protector of the Indians," by J. Porra. On the bank hills of the Banco de Landres y Mexico is a small reproduction of this fine picture.

No. 15—"Xochitl and Her Father, Papatzin, presenting the Toltec Prince, Tepecalcztin, with the new drink, Pulque," represents the discovery of the Mexican favorite drink in the 12th century. The picture is by J. Obregon.

No. 19—a picture of "St. Job." The old patriarch looks like he might have a case of small pox. If he had, then why did not Eliphaz the Tenanite and Bildad the Shulite get it also?

No. 21—"An Episode of the Conquest," is another picture of Spanish oppression and cruelty. The soldiers have invaded the court of an Aztec house. A man has just been killed in the center of the court, while over him stands a soldier with drawn sword, the point dripping with blood. Nearby is a woman wounded, her arm thrown across her babe to protect it. Through the open court three vultures are seen approaching on outstretched wings, to feast on human flesh. Another soldier is looking at a string of gems he has found, while in the background are others searching for hidden

treasure. Some Indian women are huddled in the corner, their faces distorted by fear. The scene is near Cholula.

In the library are some fine paintings. Just above the door is a large picture of the "Destruction of Jerusalem" by the Italian artist Silvagni.

I have only mentioned a very few of the many pictures in these rooms. Some of the rooms seem so crowded no more can be added. In several of the rooms were students copying portions of pictures, a face or figure, or bit of landscape. There are also some large unfinished pictures, some original, others copied. Teachers from the students' room would come in and criticize or give instruction.

A commendable feature of this school is the love the Mexican artists have for their own beautiful country. Instead of going to Europe to paint landscapes or copy some obscure or hackneyed subject, these young artists are putting on canvass views from scenery that cannot be excelled in the world.

A large picture of the founder, Charles III, shows an open countenance and a kindly expression; the most prominent feature is a large nose.

On the first floor are 8 rooms filled with statuary and plaster casts.

At the office our cameras were restored to us. The American with a camera has almost become a nuisance in Mexico, invading often the homes of the people, the art galleries and museums, and even the churches while services are being held are not too sacred for the camera fiend. Some of them have lately overdone the thing, and the press has taken it up, with the result that many of the public buildings are closed to the camera.

The typical American traveller is inquisitive, especially if he is a down-easter. This is not a bad thing unless carried to impertinence. One of our passenger conductors, who is quite a wag, had a lot of excursionists on his train. Now he knows just about enough Spanish to ask for a drink of water. One "yankee" stopped him and said, "Say, Mr. Conductor, can you talk English?" "Naw," he answered with a drawl, and went down the car calling "Boletos? Boletos!" (tickets.) J. L. V.

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