

Cost Sale Continued!

A FEW PRICES

We have a few Ladies Jackets and Capes that we are offering, to close out, at less than cost.

20 per cent reduction on 3rd Blankets and Comforts.

Goose Duck Coat only 75c.

Extra heavy Reversible Dick and Jeans Coat regular \$2.25 value, to close at \$1.50.

Best line of 50c Underwear in the town.

We will continue our COST SALE on MEN'S, BOY'S and CHILDREN'S CLOTHING until January 15th. Don't miss this opportunity to buy Clothing at

MANUFACTURERS' COST

Very truly yours,

BEST WISHES

We thank our customers and friends for the liberal patronage extended us the past year, and most respectfully solicit your trade during 1903. We will earnestly strive to merit your valued favors, and tender our best wishes for a Happy and Prosperous New Year. THE STAR STORE.

THE STAR STORE.

Resolve to take your home paper this year and act on the impulse of the moment.

Don't forget to write it 1903.

Whatever else you may do, sow oats.

Pay your taxes before February 1. A penalty of 10 per cent will be added on that date.

Venezuela has agreed to arbitration and her strenuous president will probably act as intermediary.

If your Christmas jag wasn't becoming, resolve to do away with this feature of holiday pastimes for the future.

Acc Donation.

The following is self-explanatory:

The Women of the World, Merkel Camp No. 719, desire to thank to the Cumberland Presbyterian church and Baker for the use of for our Christmas with attach \$25.00 the building. Order of the Camp. Regys, Council Com., Clerk.

Overland Presbyterian through the session here sincere thanks and their highest appreciation to the Women of the World, for their donation of \$25.00 in part in ceiling the C. May the fraternity and accomplish great

Baker, Moderator, A. Campbell, Clerk.

Hunt's Cure is not a mere. It does cure Itch, Ringworm, Eczema, Tetter, and all skin diseases. A wonderful remedy. Guaranteed. Price 50 cents.

Electric Light Plan

Sometime ago The Mail something to say on the establishment of an electric light here and gave the opinion that home parties matter under consideration. Since that time plans have matured until now the is in a fair way to materialize. The Mail has been with numerous questions probable success of the enterprise, and without a single exception the people have shown their intention of lending support and co-operation means that the number necessary to secure the enterprise easily be secured on condition.

The Mail has taken to inquire into the situation we believe that it was paying investment from Let the promoters of the enterprise hasten the work with public sympathy and enthusiasm assured them in the following.

As to Water Works

There is practically in Merkel that can be case of a fire. A water works is the need of the town, and unless out and grasp such as this the town can that stride forward surrounding country it.

Home men have

ment of water works in the town under consideration. It will take only a small amount of encouragement to secure it. Therefore, if you are approached on the subject, don't fail to lend it your support and encouragement and do all in your power to advance the interests of the town in this way. With the establishment of water works as an assured fact, the organization of a fire company would be an easy matter; for the two go hand in hand. Think over this proposition. And while pondering just figure the saving which would accrue to you on insurance alone the event of fire protection. It is all of these things to make good town, and that is just what Merkel is coming to. She is making of the best town in this country.

Mail gives all the news.

Often in the still night a racking cough doth rob us of that sweet sleep which nature seeks to give. Simmons' Cough Syrup is an infallible cure; untroubled sleep and pleasant dreams it doth assure. Guaranteed. Price 25c and 50 cents.

Jones-Hammonds

Married, Sunday December 7, in the parlors of the Grand Avenue hotel at Okmulgee, Mr. W. P. Jones of North Carolina, and Miss Willie Hammonds of Weleetka. The groom is a contractor and a man of many good qualities and has located in this city. The bride formerly had charge of the Frisco hotel here and is an estimable lady with many friends. They were married by Clerk Peacock of the U. S. district court at Okmulgee.

The American extends congratulations.—Weleetka (I. T.)

American.

How to Succeed in Business.

Keep your liver in good condition by using Simmons' Liver Purifier (tin box.) It corrects constipation, cures Indigestion, Biliousness, stops Headache, gets your heart in the right place so you can smile at your neighbor.

E. Burroughs, the Optician, will fit you with glasses at Burroughs & Mann's drug store. One week only, beginning Jan. 12.

Mr. and Mrs. Victor Harris left last week for Fisher, Fisher county, where they will teach school this term.

Get glasses to fit. E. Burroughs, Optician at Burroughs & Mann's Jan. 12.

Mrs. Crim and daughter, Willie, spent last week with family of G. E. Comegys.

We Want Your Poultry

We are in the market for all your country produce use it in any quantity. We give you the following in trade:

Frying size chickens from \$2.00 to \$2.40 per dozen
Hens from 2.25 to 2.75 per dozen
Eggs 16c per dozen

When you want groceries we should like to fit you. Our stock is complete. One price to all.

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 telephone to either of the above numbers.

The "Whispering Gallery"

The "whispering gallery" of the old hall of Representatives in the national capitol now known as statuary hall, has long been an object of interest and to the uninitiated of curiosity. In an apparent erratic manner, but with actual mathematical accuracy the voice of a speaker even when uttered in a whisper, echoes with remarkable distinctness from one place to another, and a person standing in the gallery on the extreme east may express a whispered remark audible only at the opposite side of the chamber, 110 feet away. From a scientific standpoint this phenomenon may be easily explained. The chamber is in the form of a quarter of a sphere the center of which would come five or six feet below the floor. Sound waves projected against the spherical ceiling rebound as a billiard ball carroms.

While this peculiarity is interesting and curious it always seriously interfered with the use of the chamber for legislative purposes and numerous expedient were resorted to with the hope of remedying it. At one time a canvas false ceiling was stretched across the room and the objectionable acoustic properties of the hall were destroyed. In recent renovations the old wooden ceiling has been replaced with fireproof construction but the echoed may still be heard. When the chamber was renovated last summer in painting the columns to resemble marble the marbleizing excellent likenesses of President McKinley and Roosevelt but their presence, in form similar to the newspaper picture puzzle, was deemed inappropriate and they were subsequently removed. Although not generally known, there are many curious pictures in the real marble columns of statuary hall which can not be removed, for they are in the natural veins of the marble, which is known as pudding stone. An Indian, a deer, a girl's head and some emblems are clearly discernible once they have been pointed out. There are other echoes in the capitol, notably in the Supreme Court room and the various committee rooms and in the rotunda, but they can be heard only when perfect quiet prevails.

A New Departure.

On this day and time people hold peculiar religious views. This is well, for the old superstitions and the stereotyped worshiping has become obsolete. At any rate the new way to the new in religion. In keeping with this progress some of the old rules of the town have been imposed rigid rules of their luke-warmers, and hereafter absent from sermons and Sundays in success case of sickness, from the rolls. To learn, have will soon

Ramblings Through Mexico.

By J. L. VAUGHAN.

There is a marked difference between these Indians and the regular North American Indians. Their skill in the arts and sciences, and in architecture at the time of the conquest, won even the admiration of the conquerors; but under the rule of the Spaniards they retrograded, for no man can improve "when the foot of the conqueror is on his neck." But even in their degradation they retained much of their native skill and intelligence which under the liberal government and free school system of "Modern Mexico" is lifting them to a higher plane of civilization, and in the future they will regain much of their former power as a people. A race that can produce a Juarez, a Diaz, and many other warriors and statesmen, has good blood and is capable of doing great things.

The tribes of the north care little for music and their art extends only as far as crude ornamentation or sign writing, or in the coast tribes of the northwest in making "Totem Poles." Nor does civilization improve them much in this respect, for we find them as artisans, and they are rather deficient in music.

The Mexican is full of music, and in the evening among the "Chinampas" or from the boats that float on the La Vega canal, comes the sound of harp or mandolin. From the Pueblos of New Mexico (which are the same race as the Pueblos of Mexico) we find the same love of art; ornamentation that may be crude and often grotesque, but it has the foundation of true art. The Aztec is particularly apt in portraying actual life just as they see it, and the life-like attitude

clay—the galleries with their applauding audience, and the bull in the act of kicking, while "Sambo" was sailing through the air. The expression on his face was one of astonishment and anxiety; astonished at the suddenness of the thing and anxious as to where he would light. Soon a crowd gathered around her, and she found a purchaser.

In the San Carlos art school we noticed many of the students were of the Indian race. Much of the beautiful architecture of city is done by native workmen.

STREETS IN THE CAPITAL.

To a stranger the streets of this city are very confusing, and to gain a perfect knowledge of their names and location is nearly as difficult as learning the Chinese language. Instead of having the streets the same name from beginning to end there is a different name for every block. The street our hotel is on is called "Coliseo Nueva," but when we turn to the right and go to the corner of the block it is "Refugio," while the next block is "Trapaleros." We turn and go past the hotel to the left and it is 1st Independencia, and beyond is 2nd Independencia. We are still on the same street, but it has changed its name five times in the distance of five blocks, and so it is through the whole of the city. A few of the avenues run for a considerable distance with the same name, like "Avenida Juarez," but the streets (Calles) are a puzzle. Ten years ago an effort was made to name and number the streets like they are in northern cities, but it wouldn't work; the people would get lost, even the Aztec full of pulque couldn't find his "Casa" on a street with the new fangled name and if he stayed out all night his excuse to his "Senora" in the morning was, they had changed the name of his street and he couldn't find it. So to prevent confusion and to keep belated husbands from having an excuse the old names were put back and all is lovely. But I strongly suspect one reason so many Americans take to drinking after they arrive is they get mixed up on the street names and in despair go to the bad.

We heard of an American restaurant on one of the San Francisco streets, so we hunted on the 1st, 2nd and 3rd San Francisco and with the aid of the policemen finally found it.

In the main part of the and through the aristocratic the streets are very Although there are no skyscrapers like in Chicago or New York, the buildings are three or four stories and substantially. Higher would not suit a country earthquakes are frequent they lack in height they in ornamentation and The streets are paved with a kind of cement that is as marble, and every foot is a man with a broom and bucket, it swept as clean as each corner is a policeman, and if he catches you will have to another

R. E. Tracy

We Have SOLD OUT!

Our stock of holiday goods, but we have yet a full line of Pure, Fresh Drugs; also a complete line of Druggists' Sundries, Paints, Oils, Window Glass, etc.

Burroughs & Mann

and expressions of their modelings from clay are surprising; they are perfectly true.

The American or English sculptor will go to Italy or Paris to study and his productions will very likely be mythical Venuses, Apollos, or other impossible subjects; but the Aztec of Mexico will take a lump of clay and in a short time he will make a true copy of some scene in his humble life, which he will sell for a few "centavos;" it will really have more true art than many of the high priced productions in marble.

At a bull fight in Pueblo some time ago a darkey—one of those smart fellows—thought he would astonish the natives by going into the ring and twisting the bull's tail, but "Toro" didn't do a thing but kick him clean out of the arena into the audience. A few days after this happened an

Reserved for GEORGE F. WEST, Hardware and Groceries.

ELLIOTT & MILLER

DEALERS IN

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

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

Burton-Lingo Co.,

Lumber Dealers,

Merkel, Texas.

Queer Chinaman

On the left hand is the place of a pig instead of a man. The Chinese utensils instead of blackens. A favorite present to a parent is a sixth-fourth instead of a half. He steps out of step in walking. He takes his own hand in his friend's. He puts on his hat in salutation and takes it off. He walks with his heels instead of in the stirrups. He asks it polite to ask a man's age and income. Long nails are not a sign of respectability. A long card is eight and thirty inches long. He throws away the fruit and eats the seeds. He often brings a title but to his ancestors. Men folks are often seen accompanied by men.

A man's given name is not before, "his family name." He walks south, and north instead of westnorth instead of east. Do not consider it clumsy, but to take both hands of tea. It is a mannerly to look a man in the face and take off his hat in his presence. Do not fail to advertise.



Mrs. Laura Webb.

Vice-President Women's Democratic Clubs of North Ohio.

"I dreaded the change of life which was fast approaching. I tried Wine of Cardui, and decided to try a bottle. I experienced relief the first month, so I kept taking it for three months and now I am free with no pain and I shall stop it off and on now until I have passed climacteric."

Female weakness, irregular menses, falling of the ovaries, troubles do not follow a woman to old age. Do not wait but get Wine of Cardui now and avoid suffering. Wine of Cardui is to benefit a suffering woman any age. Wine of Cardui is the best medicine for women. Mrs. Webb when she was young. When you come to the end of life Mrs. Webb's mean more to you than money. But you may now suffering she endured. Buy \$1 bottles of Wine of Cardui.

WINE OF CARDUI

There is a time for the time to take Cough Syrup is when you have Coughs or Colds. It is the best to cure you. Price 50 cents.

Try reading The Mail

J. T. N. PRES.
S. BERRY, CASHIER.

THE FIRST NATIONAL BANK,

MERKEL,



CAPITAL, :
SURPLUS, :

G. F. WEST, VICE PRES.
T. A. JOHNSON, ASST. CASHIER.

THE FIRST NATIONAL BANK,

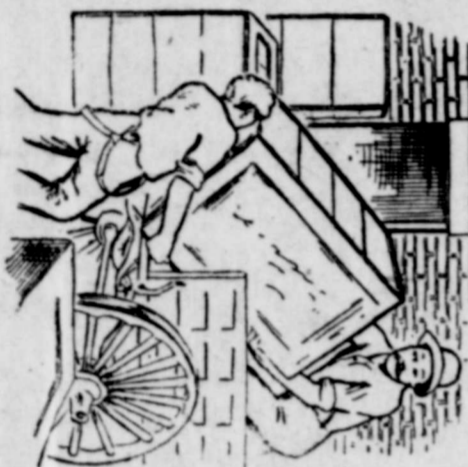
TEXAS.

: \$50,000
: \$10,000



WE SOLICIT YOUR

PATRONAGE.



MEN YOU WANT

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

ONE QUALITY ONLY—THAT THE BEST.

ED. HUGHES & CO.
ABILENE, TEXAS

W. SHEPPARD

Groceries
Vegetables
Fruit
Canned Goods
Produce
and Fish
Meat etc.

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

Groceries, Furnishings, Notions

Removed into the building next door to Warrenton Bank. Our stock embraces Groceries, Furnishings and Notions, and we flatter ourselves you will not find a better, nicer or neater stock in the city. We are making very low prices, quality of goods guaranteed. 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-clothes to work off.

HILL & MARTIN.

Golden Rule

The true business is to guard against the things of others as they guard against their own. —Egyptian.
Do as you would be done by. —Persian.
One should not wish done to oneself that one does not wish done to others. —Chinese.

Let none of you treat his brother in a way he himself would dislike to be treated. —Mohammedanism.
Do not do to a neighbor what you would take ill from him. —Grecian.
The law imprinted on the hearts of all men to love the members of society as themselves. —Roman.
Whatever you do not wish your neighbor to do to you do not do unto him. This is the whole law.

the rest is a mere exposition of it.—Jewish.

All things whatsoever ye would that men should do to you, do ye even so to them.—Christian.—Chicago Journal.

Miss Maud Hunt returned to her home at Haskell Wednesday night. She was accompanied by Miss Mattie Comegys who will spend several weeks as her guest.

No. 5021 drew the upright bed which we gave away Dec. 24, and the duplicate was held by Mrs. J. A. Woodard, who was entitled to the premium and was awarded the bed by the committee.

Watson & Bacon.

T. G. Moore of Bonham, the cotton man, spent the week here. He is still suffering from the injury sustained in the railroad wreck near Abilene, but is improving.

Arthur Thornton came in yesterday from Duke, O. T., and will spend the week here with relatives. He is the same old Arthur, and his friends were glad to see him.

English Women Who Smoke.

Shakespeare's plays were produced originally in theaters filled with smoke from countless pipes. So general was the passion for smoking that boys at that time made a living by lighting the pipes of smokers with burning coals. In the playhouse the smoker lit his pipe at the footlights or handed matches round on the point of his rapier—the only use, said Ben Jonson, to which the gallants of that day dare put their swords. Ladies smoked in theaters without fear or shame, a phase of social manners which seems to be reviving. "A titled lady of high degree whose name would make this story seem incredible," says a London newspaper, "smokes cigarettes after lunch in a restaurant in Bond street, and another lady of title, who caused astonishment by asking for a smoking compartment at Waterloo, explained by informing the stationmaster that she was going to smoke."

Good Bear Hunting in Duluth.

Congressman Page Morris of Duluth is a hunter of renown and a fisherman of equal fame. The other morning he told a friend, after reading a letter just received from Duluth: "I hope the next time President Roosevelt goes hunting he will avoid Mississippi and go up to my town. Why, this letter tells me that several bears have been killed recently within the city limits of Duluth. Just think of it—inside the city limits! And here the president tramped all over the state of Arkansas and never got a smell. Why, all he has to do is to go out into one of the back streets in my town and find what he's looking for."

Statue for General Clark.

Sixty years after his death General William Clark of the famous Lewis and Clark expedition is to have a monument erected over his grave. The monument is to be erected by Mrs. Mary Susan Glasgow of New York City, the widow of Jefferson Kearney Clark, many years a prominent Senator, who died in New York two years ago. The monument memorial was left by Mrs. Jefferson Kearney

Two Singers and a Song.

BY ESTELLINE BENNETT.

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

The last notes of the voluntary died away in a whisper. For a moment the restless congregation was hushed. Only the muffled roar of the stamp mills on the opposite side of the gulch broke the silence with its monotonous reminder of something dearer than a day of rest. Through the open windows of the church came the odor of pines and the damp sweet freshness of spring. A small boy looked wistfully out and thought of the crocuses blooming under the rocks on the hillside. A young girl, with her eyes on her prayer book, let her fancy stray to a winding mountain road, and a young mining expert driving alone.

Into the waiting stillness of the church floated the first faint, sweet strains of the processional, but above them clear and shrill rang the notes of a popular tune a man was whistling in the street. Following the glittering cross down the aisle came the vested choir, led by the thin, shrill treble of the little children. In the rear walked the soloists, marking the words of the hymn with dumb moving lips to save their voices. One of these was a stranger; the other, in spite of dark rumors concerning his fitness to wear a surplice, was the favorite at St. John's. He could sing like an angel, if he didn't live like one. His handsome, dissipated face, brought out in sharp contrast the pure, almost spiritual beauty of the new tenor.

As the singers filed into their places and the belated worshipers who had been detained in the vestibule hurried to their pews, a striking looking woman followed the usher down the aisle to a seat. The people in the pew crowded closer together to make room for her, and some one handed her a prayer book. No one noticed her again until her voice rang out on the chant. Then the people turned to look at her. None of the women knew her; most of the men did.

"The psalter for the third day of the month morning prayer," read the rector in his deep, melodious voice, and then he waited while the prayer book leaves fluttered and rustled and the singers laid their hymnals face downward to keep the place for the gloria. "Lord, who shall dwell in thy tabernacle, or who shall rest upon thy holy hill?" He read in slow, impressive tones and with a rush of many hurried voices came the response, "Even he that leadeth an uncorrupt life and doeth the thing which is right and speaketh the truth from his heart."

For the first time in years the words caught the attention of De Vere, and with an unconscious association of ideas he looked up at the new tenor. He knew that the white surplice emphasized the spiritual quality in any face. He himself could look almost a saint in his vestments and the subdued light of the church. But in this boy's delicate, clear-cut face there was purity and strength, something De Vere had believed in years ago and had lost. And Errol, the new tenor, seemed to look at him across the chancel with the reproving eyes of his own lost youth. On the terrace he could hear the tenor with its peculiar thrill and from the congregation came the mellow contralto notes of the woman, who was a stranger there. With a quick sense of mockery De Vere closed his lips and with a movement of his hand to his throat shook his head at the choir leader. He sang his solo just before the sermon, in a voice a trifle husky and strange, using all his art to conceal a lack he had never realized before. He didn't know what the sermon was about. He hardly knew whether there was one.

He was waiting for the solo that was to follow. A face might deceive him, but never a voice.

The sermon was ended, the offertory taken, and the ushers standing

when the organ rolled out the familiar prelude.

"There is a green hill far away," sang Errol, and everybody listened. The voice was a rich, sweet tenor robust, showing immaturity, some glaring faults of technique and a lack of that smoothness and finish that was the beauty of De Vere's. But these are the things that come with years and study; the appealing charm of the voice was something that neither masters nor hard work, nor knowledge of life, nor even heart-break can ever teach. It seemed in its very tones and cadences to preach the gospel of love and right living. It seemed to be the voice of heaven and made honest and pure and even renunciation worth while. "He died to make us good," and the listeners wondered that their hearts had ever grown hard and their lives gone wrong.

There was a hush over the church when the singer finished, broken only by the stifled sob of a woman. Men who spent six days of the week in a rush of business which knew neither music nor religion furtively wiped their eyes; a soprano in the choir bowed her head on the back of the seat in front of her, and cried softly without an effort at restraint; and a pale, tired woman in a front pew looked up with a new light in her thin pinched face as though she had found something in life that made it worth the struggle. De Vere sat apparently unmoved, but his face was pale and his lips were set in a thin straight line.

In the crowded vestibule at the close of the service he met the woman with the voice and joined her. She looked startled, but the hard, dark face softened a little and De Vere showed no trace of embarrassment, nor concern as he walked beside her down the steps and out into the bright sunlight with the church people he knew so well crowding him on all sides.

"I'll never sing in church again," he said as they turned down the steps



"Then We'll Go Up to the Rectory and Be Married."

leading to Main street. "I have always known that some time long before I lost my voice I'd have to give up this sort of singing. You know what I mean, we've talked it over often enough. It's my better self that sings in church on Sunday mornings. It's the man I might have been. When I sing sacred music I always imagine I'm that other fellow I might have been and I've known that the time would come when I would be too far away from him to do it any longer."

"Yes," the woman said softly, "but I don't understand why it has come to you so suddenly. What's the matter to-day? Is it this new singer, this boy? He doesn't sing as well as you do, you know he doesn't. Yet he's thrown some kind of a spell over you. I saw that in church and I don't understand."

"Don't you?" De Vere said quietly. "Don't you know that he holds people and always will, because back of his beautiful voice and musical temperament is a pure, good life and a character that's worth something? Don't you know that his personal beauty has little or nothing to do with it? He not only feels what he sings but he lives it seven days in the week."

They had passed the dead line and were in the bad lands, the district of dance halls and saloons. In the brief silence that had fallen between them the woman was waiting breathlessly for what was to come. She had never before walked down Main street with De Vere in the broad glare of noon. Something unusual was bound to happen.

"We'll get dinner now," he said in his cool, practical fashion of arranging commonplace details, "and then we'll go up to the rectory and be married. We'll leave town on the night train and begin all over again. It's a little too late to do us any good in this world, but perhaps it's the best sort of a start in the



The Merkel Mail

ED J. LEEMAN, Editor and Prop'r.

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

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Invariably in advance.

ADVERTISING RATES

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

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

SPECIAL NOTICES.

Communications to insure publication must bear the signature of the writer, as well as the name of the publisher 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.

PUBLISHER'S NOTICE.

Beginning with this issue subscriptions to all papers sent out of the county must be paid for in advance and will be promptly stopped at expiration of time paid for. Those sent in the county or this trade territory will be continued as heretofore. Remember this, please, and if you are in arrears send in the amount due at once, and if you want the paper continued renew your subscription promptly.

Postage is heavy on papers sent out of the county, hence the adoption of the cash basis.

ED J. LEEMAN, Pub.

THE GLAD NEW YEAR.

The 1903d year of the Christian era has fairly begun and holds out many promises for the future. The advent of the glad New Year also completed the eighth year of The Mail under its present management. Last year was the most prosperous in the history of the paper, and for this evidence of appreciation on the part of the people we are deeply grateful. In the future, as in the past, our greatest endeavor will be to give the people a paper in every way worthy of their patronage. Give it the support and encouragement it deserves and it will continue an important factor in the growth and development of the town.

May the year 1903 hold much in store for the people of the Merkel Country, and may happiness and prosperity attend every reader of The Mail, is our most sincere wish.

We are loath to part with the old year. The ties of friendship formed, the new friends and pleasant associations, and above all the loyalty and cheerful words hallowed the memory of 1902 and we are conscious of our seeming inability to arise to the demands which these things have imposed upon us. However, if a proper sense of appreciation for these blessings and our utmost endeavor to give our patrons "value received" can accomplish this result, then we are assured of your continued favors. The Mail greets you, therefore, with few promises and many good wishes.

THE MAIL ORDER BUSINESS.

The Mail has all along urged patrons of the paper to give home merchants preference in buying goods of every kind, and while we claim to the honor, the fact that the business has fallen off

back in their own coin—that is, emulate their example in crying your wares. When a newspaper goes out to its readers laden with bright, attractive advertisements descriptive of the goods carried by the home merchants and in which the articles are enumerated and prices given, you can safely wager your last dollar that the mail order houses are reaping no big harvest in that community. They spend thousands of dollars annually in putting their wares before the people, but the trouble is that they advertise no standard goods, and therefore merchants can get no hold upon them, because standard goods can not be quoted in competition with goods of questionable reputation and have no brands to distinguish them from goods of inferior make. Fight them with their own weapons, and remember that your local paper is the best medium at your command. However, show your faith by your works. While you encourage the papers to fight the mail order houses don't send out of town for your stationery or anything that can be printed at home. Hold to the "you tickle me and I'll tickle you" policy.

RETROSPECTIVE.

Looking back over the year just gone we see, as a people, many things to be proud of and rejoice over. The year 1902 was good to all of us, and we have enjoyed a reasonable amount of prosperity. The development of the country has been remarkable, the growth of the town phenomenal, and our expansion in every way has been all that we could desire. In the country, we find that many new farms have been opened up, many improvements made, and an increase of population amounting to fully thirty per cent. In the town we cast our eyes over many new residences, many new business houses, with others under construction and in contemplation, a new depot, a new \$8,000 public school building, and many new business enterprises. The business of the town, notwithstanding we have had two dry years in succession, will compare favorably with and exceed that of any any previous year. Altogether we should be proud of the record of 1902, and let it act as an incentive for greater exertion during this year.

The idea of burning cotton stalks as one prevention against the boll worm and weevil is growing more popular. At least it is an experiment that holds out a promise of good at very little cost. A short time ago we published a clipping from the Wills Point Chronicle which gave one man's opinion of the plan. A year ago he raked into piles and burned the cotton stalks and other refuse on the farm, and his entire crop averaged over a bale to the acre, while the worms ravaged his neighbors' crop, and they made less than half a bale. From this and other reports of similar character it looks like there is something in it. Investigation of cotton stalks will bring to light the fact that they are full of insect life and breeders of these little pests. Let every farmer in this country try the experiment this year. This may result in clearing the country of the boll worm, which plagues such havoc with the cotton and prosperity of the

Some Sweeping Reductions

For January Buyers

These prices do not only include a few odds and ends, but comprise some of our best and most seasonable goods all through the store. Whenever we are overstocked we have used the knife freely and cut prices to the core. Our splendid business for the past few weeks has left us with many remnants and odds and ends, all of which will be sold at a great sacrifice. If you have not supplied your winter "wants" you will do well to come at once and get some of these rare bargains before they are gone. The wise and prudent buyer will quickly see the value of these special offerings. We give below a few prices:

One lot ladies' dongola dress shoes, sizes 3 to 6, regular price \$1, reduction price 75c
One lot boys' school shoes were \$1.50, reduction \$1.25
One lot boys' school shoes were \$1.75, reduction \$1.50
One lot men's vici dress shoes, sizes 6 to 9, were \$2.-50, reduction price \$1.95
One lot men's calf shoes, were \$2, reduction \$1.55
One lot men's shoes slightly damaged, regular price \$1.50 and \$3.00, to close at 95c
One lot men's heavy fleeced undershirts, were \$1.00, reduction price 75c
One lot men's fleeced underwear, were 50c and 65c, reduction price 45c
One lot ladies' wool flannel waists, were \$1.25 and \$1.50, reduction price \$1.00
One lot ladies' flannelette waists, were 65c, reduction price 45c
One lot ladies' black satteen waists, were 75 and 85c, reduction price 55c
One lot ladies' knit undershirts, were 75c, reduction price 45c

WELL SHOD



When You Wear

The Town Shoe Co's Star - Five - Star

\$2.50 Shoe



You will find the fit, finish and wearing qualities unequalled for the price.

One lot ladies' knit wool undershirts, were \$1.50, now only 85c
One lot ladies' undershirts, were 30c, now 25c
All regular 2 1/2c flannel-ettes now only 10c
All regular 1c flannelette now only 11c
All our bat percales worth 10c the year round, next week only 7 1/2c
A splendid cotton flannel, cheap at 5c, next week 4 1/4c
Ladies' ribbed vests, silk faced, good values at 35c, now only 25c
Boys' and misses ribbed union suits, were 35c, now only 25c
Men's and boys' clothing and ladies' and children's jackets at bargain prices.
Some special drives on trunks and valises.
Just received a full line of the famous Canart work clothing—the best made.
If you have not traded any with us around next time you are in town and let us demonstrate to you that we are selling good goods at ROCK BOTTOM PRICES!

Watson & Bacon,

The Spot Cash Merchants

slow to understand the real sentiment of the people generally as to the quarantine and lease laws, and through the employment of questionable methods by which they hope to change the situation and force legislation to the detriment of other interests they are playing with a two-edged instrument which will yet cause disaster. The hot heads below the line have closed up their heads. Let those above the line do likewise and the danger which threatens both interests will be averted and the differences amicably settled.

Merkel could be made the best and prettiest town in the west and the means to accomplish this end would be insignificant when compared to the good that would accrue to business interests. A little effort expended in clearing the town of filth and trash would go far toward accomplishing this result, and to say that the town needs a thorough cleaning is putting it very mildly. Let every citizen make a resolution to clean up around his premises this year. What do you say?

A federal court decision nullified the "C.O." by the Twent

wiskey on the C. O. D. plan in local option precincts. The law has done good, inasmuch as it has the effect of transferring the just and case goods business from rural towns to points outside the State.

If England and Germany are even to understand that Uncle Sam will brook no maltreatment in the case of Venezuela there will be no international complications. A weak-kneed policy, however, may tend to complicate matters and bring on strife. Venezuela is a sister republic deserves our protection.

What has become of the proposition case which was to have been brought up for hearing last month? It seems that the wishes of the people have been ruthlessly sampled upon in this instance. Law should be enforced or struck from the statute books. Turn over a new leaf and write the blank page in bold relief will endeavor to improve each opportunity." This should be only New Year resolution, that covers every desire.

W. Riggins, who was impaneled from the mayorality of Merkel, has entered the race for election and the campaign is on. It is hoped the dander of the people will not be aroused.

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 50 per cent. Everything new. Come quick.

Mrs. F. B. Hoople.

The proclamation issued by the governor, which makes the poll tax law operative, shows that 200,650 votes were cast for and 109,748 against the amendment.

Remember that you must pay your poll tax by February 1st before you will be allowed to vote in any election held this year.

Mayor Riggins' popularity was short-lived. He was crowded on the wrong side of the fence and brought up in the backyard.

PROVERBS

"When the butter won't come put a penny in the churn," is an old time dairy proverb. It often seems to work though no one has ever told why.

When mothers are worried because the children do not gain strength and flesh we say give them Scott's Emulsion.

It is like the penny in the milk because it works and because there is something astonishing about it.

Scott's Emulsion is simply a milk of pure cod liver oil with some hypophosphites especially prepared for delicate stomachs.

Children take to it naturally because they like the taste and the remedy takes just as naturally to the children because it is so perfectly adapted to their wants.

For all weak and pale and thin children Scott's Emulsion is the most satisfactory treatment.



We will send you the penny, i. e., a sample 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 \$1.00; all druggists.

HOW THEY LEARNED ENGLISH.

Pupils Had Strenuous Times Under School Teachers in Wales.

The Rev. A. N. Cooper gives the following amusing explanation of why Welsh women in a certain valley in the Snowdon district do not speak English, while their husbands have a facility in the Saxon tongue. He lost his way and called at a farmhouse:

The farmer could speak English and his wife could not. That was the rule in Wales, and if any explanation is asked I prefer to give the farmer's rather than my own. A determined effort was made to get rid of the Welsh language some years when my farmer was at school. In school began one boy and one wore a board round their necks and "W. N." (Welsh note.) If I heard one of their sex speak Welsh word the board was to the culprit, and so on. The master called up the board and flogged

"the girl, too?" I asked the girl on the spot care if they and that's why cannot speak can."—York-

Advertised Letters

Following letters received called for in the Post Office at Merkel, Texas, and if not for will be sent to the Dead Letter office Feb. 1. When calling for them please state advertised.

MATTIE R. WITT, P. M.

Bailey, J. L.
Burk, Jno
Daniel, Mrs. A. T.
Griger, Mrs. L. T. M.
Hand, B. F.
Heald, I. C.
McFadden, L. A.
Stewart, Miss Vera
Verner, Fred

You've got the real thing when you get Hunt's Lighting Oil for Burns, Bruises, Cuts and Sprains. The most penetrating and healing liniment known. Guaranteed. Price 25 and 50 cents.

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:

D. H. Glover,	Merkel,	\$1.00
C. M. Reid,	"	1.00
A. A. Baker,	"	1.00
J. W. Hardy,	"	1.00
W. L. Clay,	"	1.00
G. W. Boyce,	"	.50
W. W. Harris,	"	1.00
J. J. Miller,	"	1.00
J. T. Warren,	"	2.00
J. M. Fogelman,	"	1.00
J. C. Watkins,	"	1.00
J. M. Bryson,	Dora,	2.00
I. B. Julia,	Caps,	1.00
Dr. S. M. Hunter,	O. T.,	1.00
by B. I. Lowe,		
B. I. Lowe,	Trent,	1.00
G. T. Cain,	"	1.00
W. H. Norri,	Noodle,	1.00
Sam Woodard,	Roscoe,	1.00
A. H. Thornton,	Duke, O. T.,	1.00
T. G. Moore,	Bonham,	1.00

The Social Whirl.

The young people enjoyed many social functions during the holidays, and the round of pleasures this week were numerous.

On Monday evening the hospitable home of Mr. and Mrs. W. H. Dickson was the scene of a very pleasant affair. Various games of amusement were indulged in until a late hour, and the occasion was voted one of extreme pleasure.

Tuesday evening Mr. and Mrs. Geo. S. Berry threw open the doors of their lovely home to the young people, and joy was unconfined. Refreshments were served in a very happy manner. The "wee sma' hours" came all too soon for those present, who were loud in their praises of the

keeping have not l. The med a res.

opens closes s the co e- l for ship

six days of sport, pastime, revelry and fun.

Thousands of incandescent lights and six-mile search lights will be used for illumination, \$5,000 having been appropriated to the decoration committee for this purpose.

\$20,000 will be expended for the entertainment of visitors.

The Texas & Pacific Railway Company will make rate of one fare for the round trip not to exceed \$15 from any point west of Terrell or Sherman; tickets on sale January 10, 11, 12 and 13, good for return leading El Paso as late as January 19, 1903.

For further information see any ticket agent or write E. P. Turner, General Passenger & Ticket Agent, T. & P. R'y Co., Dallas, Texas.

Plenty of empty boxes in our vault to store your valuable papers. Take good care of them, you may need them some day. Warnick's Bank.

Sunshine Indeed.

A fair sized audience greeted A. W. Hawks at the Opera House last night and will cherish for years to come the lessons there learned. There is always some

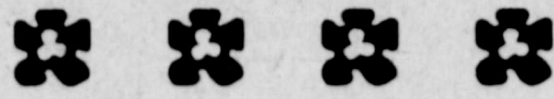
vent in our lives which we can look back upon and recall with genuine pleasure. This is one of them. Mr. Hawks carries a

deal of sunshine around him and scatters it broadcast over the land. His lectures and palpable truths

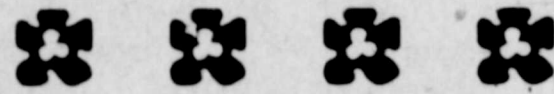
deep into the hearts of the fortunate. He is a

led,

Inventory Sale



We are now invoicing preparatory to winding up our year's business, and EVERYTHING in our store is being sold at GREATLY REDUCED PRICES. Now is the time to get Good Goods Cheap. Come to us for Dry Goods and Groceries, and get your money's worth.



Yours for a Prosperous Year,

J. P. Sharp & Co.

can equal "Sunshine" Hawks and none of them can get nearer the hearts of the people.

After the lecture many of our people were permitted to take this disseminator of sunshine by the hand and hear his kindly voice give utterance to the sweet words, "Good bye, and God bless you!"

A great many deaths from black leg in calves are reported in some parts of the country.

J. P. Sharp is rejoicing over the arrival of a new girl at his home. The Mail extends congratulations.

A crowd of local sportsmen drove out to Blowout Mountain Tuesday night to capture a large panther which has been making nightly visits to the homes of farmers in that vicinity. The bear is still at large.

The home of G. T. Davis, five miles north of Trent, was destroyed by fire December 31st, while the family were absent. No insurance. Mr. Davis' neighbors went to his rescue with substantial aid, which he appreciates very much.

Our gins will run only on Fridays and Saturdays hereafter. Merkel Gin Co.

To Music Pupils.

Miss Agnes Beavers will receive pupils at her home for instruction in music, or will teach at private residences. Terms \$3.00 per month. Miss Beavers is an accomplished musician, capable and worthy of patronage.

Mr. and Mrs. Bob Walden are retaining a son and heir, who announced his arrival Sunday.

Paine's Celery Compound

Permanently Cures Sick and Nervous Headaches that Make Life Miserable.

Sick and nervous headaches are amongst the worst ills of life. The man or woman who is subject to headache at irregular intervals, goes through life bearing a load of misery and wretchedness that is terrible to think of.

Headaches as a rule, result from a disordered condition of the nervous system. Mental excitement, loss of sleep, bodily fatigue, and disordered digestion are exciting causes. When the brain becomes tired and debilitated, the whole nervous system is weakened, and headaches result. If the liver is sluggish, the kidneys inactive, and digestion deranged, headaches invariably follow. To cure and prevent headache, the nervous system must be strengthened and vitalized. The most persistent cases of headache, nervous feebleness, and sleeplessness, are permanently cured by Paine's Celery Compound; it is the great reconstructant of the nervous system. Mrs. Henry Westrick, St. Clair, Mich., tells of her release from suffering as follows:—

"I have been troubled with dyspepsia and sick headache for a number of years. About every week I would have a bad spell of sick headache, but since I began using Paine's Celery Compound, my dyspepsia is gone, and I do not have any more headaches. I feel better than I have for years."

No Need Soiling the Hands with DIAMOND DYES

Diamond Dyes are easy and cleanly to use. Made for home economy; never disappoint. Direction book and 45 dyed samples free. DIAMOND DYES, Burlington, Vt.

They never did fail; they never will fail. What? Cheatham's Laxative Tablets—to cure a cold at once. Carry them in your vest pocket. Always ready. Guaranteed. Price 25 cents.

Mrs. W. L. Johnson of Abilene, who has been visiting her parents, Mr. and Mrs. W. W. Wheeler, returned to her home Tuesday.

The Credit System

One of the greatest curses to our farmers is the credit system. Farmers buy supplies, tools, corn, bacon and so forth and mortgage their prospective crops to secure payment. The enormous per cent charged by merchants is enough to keep a man's nose to the grindstone forever.

Stop the credit system as soon as possible, and your prosperity will date from the day you adopt the cash system.

You ask how it can be done? By raising everything at home you can.

The idea of farmers in this country buying meat, flour, meal, potatoes and other articles that can be made here as easy as any where in the world shows the worst kind of management.

Raise plenty of corn. Raise enough meat and some to sell.

Have your chickens, turkeys, and other fowls.

Grow your potatoes and make your own molasses.

Raise wheat enough to do you and stop paying \$2.25 for a few messes of patent northern flour.

Have a shelter for your tools; it's cheaper to build a shed for them than to buy new ones.

Have plenty of milk and butter winter and summer. Raise feed for your cattle. Have plenty of garden vegetables. And stay away from the store unless you are compelled to go.

Any farmer who will follow this plan and persist in it will soon be independent and can snap his fingers at merchants who want to charge him a hundred per cent profit for goods on time and it will not be necessary for him to raise but little cotton as he will need but little money. Be free and independent!—Exchange.

Three or four new mercantile establishments are in contemplation. The New Year will usher in many enterprises which will be a credit to the town.

Merkel Circuit.

Sunday was a good day in Merkel. I had the honor of preaching to as fine a class of people as can be found in the West and a packed house. This was our second Sunday with Merkel folks. Owing to the sickness of our little girl, I have not been able to get out on the rest of my work, but hope I shall soon, as she is now improving. I trust we left many true friends in our old charge at Haskell, and feel confident we have found the same here. When we came to the parsonage we found a great many substantial already provided—a regular pounding before we came. The Lord bless the good people of Merkel.—R. B. Young in Christian Advocate.

The following is clipped from a communication to the same paper, written by Rev. R. S. Heizer:

"It was hard indeed to part with our many warm friends in Merkel, whom we had been associated with the past three years, but we want to say to them, one and all, though we have been assigned to another field of labor, we have not forgotten them. May God's richest blessings be upon Merkel charge this year."

J. J. MILLER,
Attorney-at-Law, Notary Public,
Land and Collecting Agent.

Will practice in all the courts of Texas. All business entrusted to my care will receive prompt attention. Will pay taxes for non-residents, also pay interest on lands for all who may trust their business with me; will make proof of final settlement on homestead and school land property. I solicit your patronage. 6-1pd

List of Subscribers of Merkel Telephone Exchange.

Addisson, Dr J A res.....	24
" " office.....	62
Allen, I S res.....	48
Bank, First National.....	33
Bank, Warnick's.....	18
Berry, Geo S res.....	84
Browning, W P res.....	16
" & Co furniture.....	68
Burroughs & Mann drugs.....	53
Burton-Lingo Co lumber.....	81
Beavers, V V.....	19
Clay, W L res.....	35
Coats, E D res.....	6
Counts, J H res.....	94
Chenault & Hand grocers.....	67
Compton, Will res.....	22
Coggin, T J res.....	54
Comegys, G E.....	77
Davis, C E res.....	89
Dickson, W H hardware.....	51
" " residence.....	49
Dennis Bros grocery.....	66
Davis & Cox pool hall.....	32
Depot, T & P.....	
Eason, Sam res.....	36
Elliott, John res.....	28
Elliott & Miller shop.....	11
Eastup, A.....	20
Freemon, S A res.....	19
Freemon & Hughes livery.....	4
Grimmett, W N M res.....	50
Hamm, J C res.....	23
" " lumber.....	40
" Frank res.....	17
Hoople, Frank res.....	49
Hamilton, J O store.....	59
Hughes, J H res.....	14
Hunt, Sam res.....	42
Hotel, Alsobrook.....	1
" South Side.....	55
Harris, Alex res.....	21
Johnson, T A res.....	8
King, Dr J M C res.....	77
" Dr J H C res.....	41
" Dr J H C office.....	53
Largent, C M ranch.....	58
Leeman, Dr J A res.....	70
" " office.....	53
" Ed J res.....	37
Little, Dr J W res.....	13
" " office.....	76
Merkel Mail, office.....	31
McGuffin, F P res.....	52
Martin & Hill store.....	46
Miller, R A res.....	47
Mann, J L res.....	5
McCord, W H res.....	27
Martin, L E res.....	9
MERKEL MAIL.....	31
Maxwell & Son store.....	25
Maxwell, F H res.....	79
Norris, J M res.....	38
O'Zee, W J res.....	26
Pittard, J K res.....	7
Phillips, T W res.....	4
Rust, Dr E M res.....	30
" " office.....	62
Rust & Pittard drugs.....	62
Sheppard, S W grocery-mark.....	74
Sharp & Co store.....	44
Warnick, Dr J H res.....	15
" " office.....	18
Warren, J T res.....	29
" " store.....	65
" C P ranch.....	56
West, C F res.....	10
" " hardware-grocery.....	72
Williamson's restaurant.....	39
Williams, H C res.....	12
Watkins & Son market.....	75

Cut this out and hang it up for use. Call by number.

Every Bottle of Chamberlain's Cough Remedy Warranted.

We guarantee every bottle of Chamberlain's Cough Remedy and will refund the money to anyone who is not satisfied after using two-thirds of the contents. This is the best remedy in the world for lagrippe, coughs, colds, croup and whooping cough and is pleasant and safe to take. It prevents any tendency of a cold to result in pneumonia. Rust & Pittard.

A "Bare" Hunt

Hunting for better prices or better treatment than you will get at Dickson's Hardware Store is certain to turn out a "bare" hunt. Take a friendly suggestion and visit our store.

we handle a superior line of Stoves and Wagons. And we are making close prices.

Nothing is too good for our customers, therefore we handle the best of everything.

We extend you a special invitation to visit our store and inspect our line of Hardware, Implements, Wagons, Buggies, Plows, Stoves, etc.

W. H. DICKSON.

Croup.

The peculiar cough which indicates croup, is usually well known to the mothers of croupy children. No time should be lost in the treatment of it, and for this purpose no medicine has received more universal approval than Chamberlain's Cough Remedy. Do not waste valuable time in experimenting with untried remedies, no matter how highly they may be recommended, but give this medicine as directed and all symptoms of croup will quickly disappear. For sale by Rust & Pittard.

What Becomes Of Old Shoes

Old Shoes in Europe are not waste from the standpoint of industry. After they have done their service and are discarded by the first wearers, a second-hand dealer restores the worn shoes to something like their former appearance, and they are sold again to be worn a little by the poorer classes.

When the shoes are finally discarded by them they are still good for various purposes. In France such shoes are bought up in quantities by rag dealers and sold to factories, where the shoes are first taken apart and submitted to long processes which turn them into paste, from which the material is transformed into an imitation leather, appearing very much like the finest morocco. Upon this material stylish designs are stamped, and wall papers, trunk coverings and similar articles are manufactured from it.

Geo. S. Berry received a telegram from the Comptroller of the Currency at Washington, Tuesday, notifying him that permission had been granted the First National Bank of Merkel to increase its capital to \$50,000. The formalities incident to the change were gone through with at a meeting of the stockholders last week. Note change in the bank ad this week.

"A drawing card is a good thing, but Burro Mann's jewelry drawing is to You. Ask about it.

Dislocated Her Shoulder.

Mrs Johanna Soderholm, of Fergus Falls, Minn., fell and dislocated her shoulder. She had a surgeon get it back in place as soon as possible, but it was quite sore and pained her very much. Her son mentioned that he had seen Chamberlain's Pain Balm advertised for sprains and soreness, and she asked him to buy her a bottle of it, which he did. It quickly relieved her and enabled her to sleep which she had not done for several days. The son was so much pleased with the relief it gave his mother that he has since recommended it to many others. For sale by Rust & Pittard.

It is a blessing to any man to have work to do, whether he feels like it or not. If a man is placed in such circumstances that he can lie in the morning until he feels like getting up, or he can do nothing after he has eaten his breakfast if he feels lazy; or that it is not necessary for him to take hold of business on days when he feels like doing nothing, he is at a great disadvantage in life and cannot do the best work of which he is capable.

In this respect a poor man is in better circumstances than a rich one, and a rich man can bring himself up to the level of a poor one only by connecting himself with some enterprise which he must work day by day. Pressure is essential to the highest measure of physical or mental success. If one has work to do every day, whether he cares to do it or not, one may thank God for that constraint.—Selected.

A subscription list is being circulated for the purpose of placing electric lights, and if a sufficient number is guaranteed the plant will be started immediately. Money to establish the enterprise has already been pledged. Hurry up I. S. Allen and subscribe as many lights as you care for either at your own expense or of business of the place or town.

BEST PASSENGER SERVICE IN TEXAS.



NO TROUBLE TO ANSWER QUESTIONS.

*No Strateck
Element
to our Post Office
See a Point*

P. TURNER,
GEN'L PASSR AND TICKET AGENT,
DALLAS, TEXAS

J. V. W. Holmes has sold his interest in the First National Bank of Sweetwater to Ernest Daniel, an Abilene boy who has been in the employ of Trammell & Co. for several years. Mr. Holmes will probably stay in Sweetwater.

Yule Tides

Christmas and pleasant usual of the dominion the pre...

A Great Clearance Sale.

OUR JANUARY CLEARANCE SALE begins today.

Realizing the fact that that there are not many more weeks in which to sell winter goods, we have cut the prices so deep that cost has been lost sight of. Most everything is cut to half price. It will be twelve months before you will find such an opportunity again. Better take advantage of these offerings now. This is no fluke, for we always live up to our advertisements.

CLOTHING, LADIES' SKIRTS, CAPES, OUTINGS, FLANNELS, etc., will go at Wholesale Cost.

Everything in Dry Goods, Shoes, Hats, etc., will go at greatly reduced prices.

A large and well selected stock of Groceries, also, on which we can save you money.

This sale will last until Feb. 1, only, at which time we expect to take stock.

Yours for Bargains,

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.

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

DR. J. W. LITTLE, Resident Dentist.

EXAMINATIONS FREE — OFFICE IN
FERRIER BUILDING.

LEEMAN & KING, Physicians & Surgeons

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

MORE LIVES ARE SAVED ...BY USING...

Dr. King's New Discovery

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.

Market Camp No. 719, W.O.W.
meets every second and fourth night in each month at
F. Hall.

Comegys, C. C.
Clerk.

A PAGE OF HISTORY.

Jefferson Davis Not Disguised as a Woman When Captured by the Federals.

St. Louis' Mo., Jan. 1.—The Republic's Washington correspondent says:

It has been stated or misstated so often as to have become almost a matter of "history" that Jefferson Davis was disguised as a woman when captured by the Federal authorities in Georgia in 1865. The illustrated papers of the period contained pictures representing the former President of the seceding States disguised in a bonnet, dress skirt and other female apparel at the time of his arrest and similar statements have been discussed. It is a fact not generally known that the outer garments worn by Gen. Davis are in possession of the Government and a description of them may be of interest.

Referring to the oft repeated stories of his "disguise" an examination of these garments would give another proof of a statement once made by the late Speaker Reed that much of the so called history is merely a record of lies that have been agreed upon.

Securely locked in a strong Government safe is a tin box containing the outer garments worn by Mr. Davis when arrested and also his riding spurs one of which is broken. These articles are in the original box in which they were sent from Georgia to Gen. Schofield by the officers making the arrest.

They consist of a shawl a rain-proof coat without the cape and the spurs mentioned. The shawl is such as was worn then and is worn now by men of advanced years to protect the throat and shoulders. It is in fact a large muffler. Sometimes a shawl of this pattern is worn by women, but its customary use is as a man's muffler either with or without an overcoat.

The raincoat is a man's garment. It is short with broad shoulders and with allowance for the change of mode is a commonplace waterproof coat.

It is of a soft goods and if worn by a man of middle age on a rainy day would not attract any special notice on the streets of Washington. How little truth there was in the story of female disguise can be seen in these garments. When Davis would present himself in a raincoat over his head and would be identified to the

boots and spurs. No remarkable effort at female disguise is needed to furnish ample denial of the story. These articles have been shown the Republic correspondent by the official having charge of them with a statement that they were all the garments worn by Gen. Davis in addition to his hat and usual clothes. Jefferson Davis, negro body servant who was present at the arrest is an employe of the Senate. He has said that no effort at disguise was made and his statement is borne out by the articles mentioned. While the question is not one of importance now if it ever was it is a fact known to very few persons that these garments are in the custody of the Government. The Government also has under lock and key many interesting relics connected with the assassination of Lincoln. These are not for exhibition but might be seen occasionally with a special permit.

These relics include the pistol with which Booth shot Lincoln the flattened bullet which caused death and splinters of bone from the shattered skull of the President. The pistol is a short single barrel powder and ball deringer of about 45 caliber. The collection includes also the probe used by the surgeons, the riding boots of Booth showing the long cut in the top of one made by the surgeon who treated the fugitives broken leg; the knives used on Secretary Seward and in fact all the grewsome articles connected with the conspiracy. The majority of interesting Government relics are placed in the national museum and from time to time are sent to expositions; but for obvious reasons the articles named never are included in those kept for exhibition.

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