

# Crockett Courier.

Entered as Second-Class Matter at Crockett Post-Office.

Subscription Price \$1.00 Per Annum, Payable at Crockett

VOL. XV.

CROCKETT, TEXAS, DECEMBER 8, 1904.

NO. 46.

## Dan J. Kennedy Says:

Our stock of Holiday Goods is now complete. Bring the children in to see the great display of dolls at Racket Store. There is only 14 more days of business between now and Xmas, and we want to

### Make Hay While the Sun Shines

and to accomplish this result, we are going to make the low prices in every department. Yours for business,

**DAN J. KENNEDY,**

Proprietor Yellow Front and Racket Stores.

crop yields greater this year than any previous year. It alone would pay the National debt and enough remain over to pay a considerable portion of the Government expenses. The cotton comes next with an approximated value of \$600,000,000. Wheat and hay contend for the third place as the greatest money crops. Potatoes and barley reached their highest production this year, and except in 1902 the oats crop was never so large by sixty millions of bushels. The development of the country is simply told in the statement that the farm capital has increased two thousand million dollars within the past four years and this without considering the emphatic increase of the value of land in the last two years.

The farm exports for the year keep well up with the average during the five years preceding which were \$865,000,000. The export of animal products for the past year amounted to \$223,000,000. There was an increase of export of cattle and sheep and a reduction in the number of horses, probably to the termination of the English Boer War.

The experiments in vaccination for blackleg in cattle is most satisfactory, the mortality being reduced to 44 per cent of the animals treated. Experiments in tea growing are highly satisfactory, gardens of Dr. C. L. Shepard yielding from eight to ten thousand pounds annually. The work of establishing a tea plantation in Texas has been continued.

As to cotton, satisfaction is expressed by the Secretary. Much

space is given to the subject which can be condensed as follows:

Special work has been engaged in to bring home to the Texas and Louisiana farmers the advantages of cultural methods and an early maturing seed. This has been done with the hearty co-operation of the Agricultural and Mechanical College near Bryan. Thirty-two experimental farms have been and will be established in Texas. The report shows the department to be far from discouraged as to the Guatemala ant. It states that a hundred colonies representing 4,000 individuals were brought to Texas and that the ant has maintained itself through the summer. But the report states that the practical uses of the importation cannot now be foretold, where cultural methods suggested by the department have been forwarded, even in the weevil infested districts. The report says the results were about as satisfactory as before the advent of the weevil. Experiments have shown that the cultural methods adopted to counteract the depredations of the weevil have an equally good effect in heading off the boll worm. Experiments along the line of preventing damage by boll worms have progressed to that point where the department announces that it is prepared to recommend measures which will reduce the damages of the boll worm to an inconsiderable amount. In regard to the development of a cotton which will not be subject to the

(Continued on page 8.)

#### SECRETARY

#### WILSON'S REPORT.

#### INCREASE IN THE PAST FOUR YEARS IN FARM VALUES.

#### Experiments in Various Lines Progressing Satisfactorily—What He Says of Texas Work.

Staff Special Galveston News.

Washington, Nov. 29.—The Secretary of Agriculture has issued his report and it may be called a cheerful one. From the beginning to the end of it there is not a pessimistic note. The crops have been universally good and in nearly all cases where the Government has paternally set its hand to improve conditions, conditions have improved. There is a tone of satisfaction in the report at what has been done and a determination to continue assiduously in doing more.

The Secretary starts out by enumerating the important features of the year's work. These are briefly the co-operation with agricultural stations, feeding and

breeding estimates, war on the boll weevil and cattle disease, plans for educating road engineers, the development of a hardy orange, the value of nitro fixing bacteria, successful introduction of plants suited to light rainfall areas, establishment of pure food standards, the extension of agriculture education in primary and secondary schools and the extension of instruction to our island possessions. If there is the trace of boasting in this enumeration of a few of the things done by the department for the year an examination of the report in full will show it is justified. The corn

## James S. Shivers & Company Says:

Gifts of value are the appreciated evidences of love, lasting in their renewal of thoughts in the heart of the recipient for the donor. In gift-giving wisdom in selecting of gifts is evidenced daily in our great store, where hundreds select the best. The best is none too good for our customers for their loved ones, not articles of no value, but tokens that are lasting and useful. What can be more useful than a nice suit, hat, shirt, pair of shoes or suit of clothes for your little man or husband. Below we give you a few prices on useful gifts which will make happy your loved ones if purchased of "The Big Store" and presented to them.



#### Boys' Clothing.

Boys' two piece suits, in broken sizes, worth 1.00, now... 74c  
Boys' two piece cheviot suits in sizes 7 to 14, worth 1.50, now... 99c  
Boys' two and three piece suits, broken sizes, from 4.50 to... \$1.00  
Boys' extra handsome sailor vestee suits, prettily trimmed, in broken sizes, worth 5.00, now... \$2.50  
Boys' knee pants, all sizes, nicely made from best material, from 75c down to... 24c

#### Shoe Department.

One lot men's shoes, all styles, sizes broken, worth from 1.50 to 5.00, now 2.50 to... 99c

Men's lace or congress, plain or cap toe, calf shoes, all sizes, worth 1.75, to 2.00, now... \$1.50  
One lot Peters' celebrated black Diamond shoes with a record, always sold for 2.50, now... \$1.75  
Courtney's National, in plain or cap toe Blucher, calf or kid, worth 2.50, now... \$2.00  
Our celebrated Walk Easy shoes, in all newest styles, in all sizes, at from 5.00 to... \$3.25

#### Gents' Furnishings.

Men's high grade heavy balbriggan suits, broken sizes, worth 1.25 a suit, now... 95c  
Men's extra heavy ribbed undershirts, in all sizes, best quality, worth 60c, now... 33c

Men's French model imitation Guyot suspenders, in all colors, worth 25c, now... 15c  
Men's half hose, three thread heel and toe, in black, blue and red, cheap at 15c, now... 10c

The handsomest line of neckwear in town, in all of the newest shades and styles, from 50c to... 15c

#### Men's Shirts.

Men's heavy cotton, mixed wool and fleeced overshirts, in all sizes, worth 75c, now... 44c  
Men's colored negligee shirts, detached collars, attached cuffs, handsome patterns, worth 75c, now... 49c  
Men's beautiful corded madras shirts in all new patterns and all sizes, worth 1.00, now... 73c

Men's soft bosom white shirts, broken sizes, worth \$1.00, now... 65c  
The best shirts made, in all colors, styles and sizes, from 1.50 down to... 24c

#### Men's and boys' clothing

Lot 5108—Men's cheviot suits, nicely made and finished, all sizes, worth 4.00, now... \$2.50  
Men's black clays, broken sizes, nicely made, worth 3.50, now... \$2.25  
Lot 4092—Youths' cashmere suits, pretty checked patterns, worth 3.75, now... \$2.25  
Youths' all wool cheviot suits, in all sizes, beautiful patterns, worth 5.00, now... \$3.50  
Come in and examine these bargains—they are money savers.

## "THE BIG STORE"

We Want Your Furs, Hides, Cotton and Other Produce.

Ladies Will Find Our Store a Nice Resting Place while in Town.

Things to Beautify the Home With at the

# NEW FURNITURE HOUSE

Yes, that's our business—beautifying homes. We've made it a study for many years. It would consume every column of this paper to make mention of all the bargains we are offering, so just to give you an idea, we give below a few prices on standard goods:

<p>Here is a beautiful bed, enameled in shell pink or apple green, heavy posts, well worth \$8.50, only</p>  <p style="text-align: center;"><b>\$6.75</b></p>	<p><b>Kitchen Safe</b></p> <p>Extra wide, with tin, wire or embossed front. With proper care will last a life time, only</p>  <p style="text-align: center;"><b>\$3.50</b></p>	<p><b>Iron Bed</b></p> <p>White or green enameled, in full double size, only</p>  <p style="text-align: center;"><b>\$1.98</b></p>
<p><b>Iron Bed</b></p> <p>This handsome bed finished in a combination of light blue, shell pink or white and gold, is an unusual bargain at only</p>  <p style="text-align: center;"><b>\$8.95</b></p>	<p><b>Folding Bed Springs</b></p> <p>Has 117 tempered steel springs, in sizes 4 feet 4 inches and 4 feet, only . . . .</p>  <p style="text-align: center;"><b>\$1.98</b></p>	<p><b>Sewing Machine</b></p> <p>Elegant five drawer machine, guarantee with each one. Drop head \$18.00, upright head</p>  <p style="text-align: center;"><b>\$15.00</b></p>

Mail Orders Solicited. I Pay Freight on All Orders of \$10.00 or Over.

Northeast Corner  
of Public Square, Opposite  
Pickwick Hotel.

# R. L. ALDRICH.

**SECRETARY WILSON'S REPORT.**  
(Continued from page 1.)

ravages of the weevil the Secretary says:

"The hope of finding a variety of cotton not subject to injury by this pest has been cherished for several years, but hitherto no method has been ascertained from which the plant could offer effective resistance to the insect. It has been found, however, that in some varieties of cotton the presence of the larva, instead of blasting the buds and bolls, often stimulates a special growth of internal tissue which kills the young weevil. This is not merely accidental or abnormal, but is in the nature of a protective adaption developed as a final result of a long struggle for existence by the cotton and the weevil in tropical America. The

insect could not breed or perpetuate itself in the presence of a variety of cotton in which the formation of the new protective tissue occurred regularly. It is accordingly within the range of scientific possibilities that resistant varieties of cotton can be found in tropical America, or developed by selection and work on this line has been begun."

The department expresses its satisfaction with the results of the distribution of an early seed in the weevil infested districts. The work of investigation into the disease known as cotton root rot has just been started, and it is yet too early to determine the value of the experiments. Efforts to secure resistant types of a cotton have not been successful, and the course to be pursued in meeting the disease is in the soil treatment.

Success has attended the efforts to produce an upland long staple cotton. Several hybrids are approaching a fixity of type, and some of these have a staple from 1 1/4 to 1 1/2 inches in length.

Experiments in producing Cuban tobacco in this country are progressing satisfactorily. In 1903 thirteen acres in Cuban seed tobacco was planted in Texas, three in Alabama and three in South Carolina. This year further fields will be planted at Nacogdoches, Crockett and Giddings. Samples of the Texas product grown in 1903 were submitted to experts, with the result that they declared it to have considerable merit both in flavor and aroma and some of the experts pronounced it to be superior to any filler yet grown in this country. The Alabama filler is considered fair, but not the equal of the Texas leaf, while the South Carolina product is inferior to each of the products of the other two States. The commercial value placed upon this leaf by experts is from 18 to 40 cents a pound, though some of the Texas product sold for a higher price. The report says final judgment can not be rendered on this tobacco until further advices are received from dealers and manufacturers. The Egyptian clover it being tried in Texas. W. G. S.

**Lost Stock.**

A gray horse, long bodied, slightly hog backed, saddle scar on back bone, 14 1/2 hands high, 12 years old, branded V O T on left hip and other brands not remembered; also a white and red spotted cow, branded 4 X L on side and marked under half crop off each ear; a brown Jersey yearling and a red yearling, both unbranded and unmarked and following cow. Will pay liberally for recovery of stock. If found in northern part of county notify W. H. Holcomb, Augusta, or if in southern part notify A. N. Atkinson, Creek, Texas.

**Attention to Those  
Who Are Interested in Good Horses.**

He is a genuine registered horse, foaled at Highland, O., in the spring of 1899. He is a large handsome, dark bay horse, with left hind foot white; stands 16 hands 1 inch, weighs 1200 pounds. In conformation he is a grand, big horse, with a beautiful head and neck, and the very best of feet and legs; short back, deep body and very fine knee and hock action. His blood lines are the very best of northern horses. That he will beget speed and grand road qualities there is no doubt, as he not only inherits, but possesses, those qualities. Even common mares bred to a horse of this class can not fail to produce foals that will find a ready market as carriage horses or roadsters as well as general all-purpose horses. He can be found at my barn just north of the residence of John Monk. Mares from a distance will be taken care of without charge except for feed. I will not be responsible for any accidents while in my care.



J. W. T. No. 35496.

J. C. HIPPEL, Crockett, Tex.

The Leading and Representative Business College of the South.



**A BRIGHT YOUNG WOMAN**

is placed on an equal with the young man as to earning capacity in the commercial field.

Hundreds upon hundreds of our young lady graduates are now holding responsible and high-salaried positions as secretaries, stenographers and bookkeepers. Let us tell you more fully about the methods of this great College. We will mail you our catalogue if you'll mention this paper.

**Wheeler Business College**

Capital Stock \$100,000.  
Address either place  
BIRMINGHAM, ALA. or HOUSTON, TEX.



*Geo. Schneiders Co.*

GALVESTON, TEXAS  
OLDEST LIQUOR HOUSE IN TEXAS  
49 YEARS IN BUSINESS  
TRY OUR FAMOUS 'BLUE DIAMOND WHISKEY

4 FULL QTS.  
7-YEAR OLD, \$3.00  
8-YEAR OLD, 3.20  
10-YEAR OLD, 3.50

GUARANTEED THE BEST  
WHISKEY  
FOR THE MONEY NO MATTER  
HOW FAR YOU  
MAY SEND.  
MONEY BACK IF NOT  
SATISFIED.

EXPRESS CHARGES PAID

PROMPT DELIVERY

# Holiday Excursions

Between All Points on the

## I. & G. N.

And to All Points in

### TEXAS AND LOUISIANA

Via

## I. & G. N.

### "The Texas Road"

Convention Rates.

Tickets on Sale

Dec. 23, 24, 25, 26, 31, and January 1st

Good Returning

Jan'y 4, 1905

Special Arrangements

See Agents or Write

D. J. PRICE,

General Pass. and Ticket Agent,  
Palestine, Texas.

#### PROFESSIONAL CARDS.

**B. F. BROWN, M. D.,**  
PHYSICIAN and SURGEON  
CROCKETT, TEXAS.  
Office over Haring's Drug Store.

**W. C. LIPSCOMB, M. D.,**  
PHYSICIAN and SURGEON,  
CROCKETT, TEXAS.  
Office with B. F. Chamberlain.

**S. B. STOKES, M. D. J. S. WOOTTERS, M. D.**  
**STOKES & WOOTTERS,**  
PHYSICIANS & SURGEONS.  
CROCKETT, TEXAS.  
Office in the rear of Chamberlain's  
Drugstore.

**D. A. NUNN, D. A. NUNN, JR.**  
**NUNN & NUNN,**  
ATTORNEYS-AT-LAW,  
CROCKETT, TEXAS.  
Will practice in all Courts, both  
State and Federal, in Texas.

50 YEARS' EXPERIENCE

# PATENTS

TRADE MARKS  
DESIGNS  
COPYRIGHTS &c

Anyone sending a sketch and description may quickly ascertain our opinion free whether an invention is probably patentable. Communications strictly confidential. Handbook on Patents sent free. Oldest agency for securing patents. Patents taken through Stumm & Co. receive special notice without charge, in the

### Scientific American.

A handsomely illustrated weekly. Largest circulation of any scientific journal. Terms, \$3 a year; four months, \$1. Sold by all newsdealers.

**STUMM & CO. 361 Broadway, New York**  
Branch Office: 207 F St., Washington, D. C.

#### EASTERN TEXAS RAILROAD CO.

TIME TABLE NO. 5.

Effective 1 00 a. m., Wednesday,  
December 16, 1903.

WEST BOUND Train No. 1	STATIONS	EAST BOUND Train No. 2
Leave a. m.		Arrive p. m.
7 00	Lufkin	4 15
7 23	Carnthers	3 57
7 40	Clancy	3 39
7 57	Pine Island	3 18
8 15	Draso	3 00
8 35	Hagerville	2 40
8 50	Kennard Mill	2 25
9 15	Kennard	2 00
Arrive a. m.		Leave p. m.

Trains run daily except Sunday.  
R. W. MILLER,  
Traffic Mgr.

#### Unwritten Books.

Goldsmith often raised money on some projected work, then put it aside and started another. He once drew up a prospectus for a "Dictionary of Arts and Sciences" and obtained promises of help from his friends, Johnson, Reynolds and Burke, but the booksellers were too wary for once, and the scheme fell through. One of his last proposals was the "Survey of Experimental Philosophy," which met with the same fate.

The more practical Dr. Johnson could himself devise and not undertake. He once thought of writing a life of Oliver Cromwell, but it is as well perhaps that he changed his mind. His constitutional indolence was too great to admit of his undertaking many great literary enterprises, and, unlike Coleridge, he was well aware of the fact. He dawdled over his edition of Shakespeare for nine years, although he had promised it in a year, and only finished it in consequence of the attack of Churchill, who accused him of cheating his subscribers:

He for subscribers baits his hook  
And takes your cash, but where's your book?

No matter where; wise fear, you know,  
Forbids the robbing of a foe.  
But what to serve our private ends  
Forbids the cheating of our friends?

—Chambers' Journal

#### An Orator's Voice.

"In the church," says Emerson in his essay on eloquence, "I call him only a good reader who can read sense and poetry into any hymn in the hymn book." The test is a severe one, for there are hymns which are wanting both in sense and poetry. The essayist doubtless intended to call attention to that charm of a good voice which enchains attention and indicates a rare sensibility in the reader. "The voice, like the face, betrays the nature and disposition and soon indicates what is the range of the speaker's mind. Many people have no ear for music, but every one has an ear for skillful reading."

John Quincy Adams was said to be so good a reader that no man in his time could read the Bible with such powerful effect. Mr. Emerson, who heard the ex-president speak when his fine voice was broken by age, records that "the wonders he could achieve with that cracked and disobedient organ showed what power might have belonged to it in early manhood."

#### Why the Golfer Married.

"In Scotland," said an Englishman, "golf is almost a disease. I heard not long ago of an elderly bachelor in Edinburgh who had played golf from his boyhood up. He had never courted a girl because, he said, golf hadn't allowed him the time."

"Hence everybody was surprised one day to hear that the crusty old gentleman was to be married. A caddy—the caddies are men in Scotland—went to him, wrung him by the hand and said sentimentally:

"Man, I'm glad yer going to wed. I think ye must love her greatly. I know your life will be all bliss and sweetness now, and I envy ye the golden days o' romance in store."

"'Pooh, pooh, Robert,' said the other. 'It's nothing of that sort. Macmann, the champion, took a wife last year, and it improved his game. I am just taking one in the hope that it will improve mine.'"

#### Bridge of the Evil Man.

Near Aberystwith, on the west coast of Wales, where the Monk river flows through a black, yawning abyss, there is a single arch bridge of unknown antiquity. The popular legend says that it was built by the devil, and far and near it is known as "the Bridge of Devils" or "the Bridge of the Evil Man." British antiquarians are united in the belief that it was built by the early monks, but that fact does not affect the popular legend in the least. "Old Harry's" part in its erection being never questioned by the inhabitants of Cardiganshire. Grose says that "the bridge is an honor to the hand that built it, whether that hand be Satan's or that of some monk."

#### Life's Changes.

The great novel, the great book of any sort, is no longer being written for exactly the same reason that the Gothic cathedral is no longer being built, not because men have become incapable of it nor because its possibilities are exhausted, but because unforeseen changes in social and economic conditions have rendered it impossible.—H. G. Wells.

#### Satisfied Her.

She—Stop! You shan't kiss me tonight—at least, not before I have had an explanation. I heard today that you had been engaged to sixteen different girls. He—But that was before I had seen your angel face, my love. She—So it was, to be sure. I never thought of that.

#### Samples Didn't Suit.

Neighbor—Did that artist who stayed with you last month paint your doors and windows? Farmer—He did not. At first he refused to do such common work, and after I had seen one of his pictures I refused to let him do it.

#### The Compromise.

She—How sweet of you to own that you were in the wrong! He (absent-

blindedly)—Yes; mother always taught me that it was easier to give in to a woman than to argue with her.—Detroit Free Press.

#### A Hint For Health.

Physicians say that those who sleep with their mouths closed have the best health. If you awake in the night and find your mouth open get up and close it.—Kansas City Journal.

Among all forms of mistakes prophecy is the most profitable.—Filot.

#### How Smith's Friend Got Through.

They were out in Kansas about 100 miles and wanted to reach Kansas City. One of them had a pass for John Smith and wife. He was John Smith all right, but his friend could hardly pass as Mrs. Smith. Although they were practically without funds, they boarded the train. "Take a seat in the rear of the car," said Smith to his friend.

Then Smith went forward and sat down by a young woman. Soon they were talking like old friends, and the subject of tickets was brought up by Smith. He asked her to let him see her ticket. It was not of the variety that requires the signature of the purchaser.

Smith examined it until the conductor came through, and then he handed up his pass and the ticket. Pointing to his friend behind, he said, "The extra ticket is for him." The scheme worked. To this day the young woman does not know that she was once Mrs. Smith for a short ride through Kansas.—Kansas City Times.

#### A Queer Food.

A most singular food is the larvae of a fly common in certain portions of California and known as ephydra. This insect is found in such vast quantities in Lake Mono, Cal. that it is washed upon the shores in vast windrows and can be collected by bushels. The water of Mono is very singular, seemingly very heavy and smooth, like oil, so much so that it resists ordinary wind and refuses to become ruffled. When the larvae begin to appear the Indians gather from far and near and scrape them up, place the wormlike creatures on cloths and racks in the sun and dry them, when they are beaten up and husked, looking then like rice. The Indians call the food koo-chah-bee, and many bushels are collected at his time. That larvae are nutritious is shown by the condition of the Indians, who soon grow fat on the rich diet. Many birds are attracted by the larvae and gorge themselves with the singular food.

#### Thackeray's Odd Ways.

"He wrote a very small, neat hand and used slips of note paper," said the late John Hollingshead of London concerning Thackeray. "These he would often gather up and put in his coat pocket, leaving his secretary at work, and stroll down to the Athenaeum club. Here if he could get a comfortable table and was not waylaid by any gossip, to whom he was always ready to give an attentive ear, he would pull out his slips and carry his story a few steps farther. In an hour or two he would again collect the scattered papers and go on to the Garrick club, where, if not interrupted, he would resume his writing. This habit of composing in public frightened many of the old club fogies, who thought they were being caricatured for posterity, and no doubt helped to get him black-balled at the Travelers'."

#### The Laws of Nature.

The universe is under the reign of law, which is everywhere—in things mean and minute as well as in things noble and great. So far as we have come into an understanding of these laws we have found none defective.

No sound philosophy can concede that a law of nature can be out of balance or in any way less than true and perfect. When we advance a theory to the point where it would prove that a law of nature is out of balance and defective, we should know that the conclusion is wrong; that it is our reasoning, and not the law, that is out of balance and defective.—From "Balance: The Fundamental Verity," by Oriando J. Smith.

#### Her Revenge.

The dinner was in progress. It was a dinner given in honor of some very important new acquaintances. Just before the guests arrived the master of the house had been intensely rude and annoying to his wife, and she had not forgotten it. There was a moment's pause in the buzz of conversation round the beautiful table, gleaming with lights, blushing with roses. Then the wife leaned forward and in a voice soft, but loud enough to attract the attention of the whole company, said sweetly, "By the way, James, what was that story you told me to lead up to in the middle of the dinner?"

#### Got All the News Promptly.

A countryman gave the following reason for not subscribing to a local newspaper: "I get all the news there is. My wife belongs to the woman's club, one of my daughters works in the millinery shop and the other is in the delivery window at the postoffice, and I'm the village grocer."—Boston Commercial Bulletin.

#### Peculiarities of Eyes.

The human eye in perfect condition is able to see objects separately that are only one minute of arc apart. Put two objects—as, for instance, two black circles on a white ground—just one inch apart and then place them at a distance of about 230 1/2 feet. As seen with the naked eye the apparent space between the circles will be a minute of arc. This space is plainly the limit of detail visible to the unassisted human eye. Now, it might be supposed that an insect, having a compound eye, would be able to see more detail than we can do—in other words, could separate small objects closer together. As a matter of fact, owing to the small aperture of the lenses composing the facets of the eye and the spacing between the facets, insects see less detail than we do. Dr. G. Johnstone Stoney calculated that a dragon fly cannot see separately two objects which are placed less than one degree apart. In other words, to such an insect two silver coins lying on a table three inches apart and viewed from a distance exceeding fourteen and one-third feet would appear as a single object. Bees and flies, according to the same authority, are still more limited in their ability to see the details of objects presented to their eyes. A fly could only see the two silver coins above described separately at a distance not exceeding about seven feet.

#### The Stinging Tree.

The stinging tree of faraway Queensland is a luxurious shrub, pleasing to the eye, but dangerous to the touch. It grows from two or three inches to ten or fifteen feet in height and emits a disagreeable odor. A traveler says: "Sometimes while shooting turkeys in the shrubs I entirely forgot the stinging tree till I was warned of its close proximity by its smell and have often found myself in a little forest of them. I was only once stung, and that very lightly. Its effects are curious. It leaves no marks, but the pain is maddening, and for months afterward the part when touched is tender in rainy weather or when it gets wet in washing, etc. I have seen a man who treats ordinary pain lightly roll on the ground in agony after being stung, and I have known a horse so completely mad after getting into a grove of the trees that he rushed open mouthed at every one who approached him and had to be shot. Dogs when stung will rush about, whining piteously, biting pieces from the affected part."

#### The One Thing Lacking.

Emperor William II. wrote a poem once which he submitted to a great literary man who dined at the castle for that purpose particularly. The critic read it and found his dual duties in conflict. He had to advise an amateur poet with an exceptional power for resenting a hostile comment. He yielded only a very little to the exigencies of the situation. "This verse, your majesty," he began, "seems to require alteration in certain respects." The author took the manuscript and conned it thoughtfully; then his brow cleared. "Why," he cried, as one seeing a sudden light, "I have actually not signed the poem! Give me a pen!" And the only fault he saw in the work was forthwith remedied.

#### Diplomatic Corps Costumes.

An interesting fact not generally known in regard to the diplomatic corps is that a member of that august body cannot, under the penalty of official reprimand and danger of recall, appear at a fancy ball in the national costume. This fact was developed one evening when a large fancy ball was given at one of the private houses on the same evening of a presidential reception to the diplomatic corps. Those of the diplomats who attended the ball later in the evening were obliged to first change the court costumes worn at the White House. Inquiry on the part of curious friends developed the reason just stated.

#### A Kettle of Fish.

The phrase "a kettle of fish," meaning an awkward entanglement, most probably has no connection with our word kettle, a vessel in which water is boiled. It has been with much reason derived from the word "kiddle." French "quidde," a stake fence set in a stream for catching fish. Inspector Walpole reminds us that this kiddle net, or kiddle, was mentioned in Magna Charta and in other early statutes.—London Standard.

#### The Joy of Life.

The true joy of life is the being used for a purpose recognized by yourself as a mighty one, the being thoroughly worn out before you are thrown on the scrap heap, the being a force of nature instead of a feverish, selfish little clod of ailments and grievances, complaining that the world will not devote itself to making you happy.—Bernard Shaw.

#### Confidences.

All confidence is dangerous if it is not entire. We ought on most occasions to speak all or conceal all. We have already too much disclosed our secrets to a man from whom we think any one single circumstance is to be concealed.—Bruyere.

#### Degenerations Luxury.

The luxury which is now regarded as a necessity is one of the evils which

are undoubtedly tending toward the degeneration of all classes of English society.—Hospital.

#### Melancholy.

Hook—Bjones is the most melancholy fellow I know. Nye—That's quite true. He proposed to a girl once by asking her how she would like to be his widow.

You will never find time for anything. If you want time you must take it.—Buxton.

#### His Doesn't Count.

Dremer—My wife and I always pass upon and decide our household questions quite as seriously as though we were voting upon the national issues. Henpeck—Well, whenever my wife and I pull off an election like that she always wins by one vote.—Philadelphia Press.

#### Nobility of Purpose.

Go before no man with trembling, but know well that all events are indifferent and nothing to thee, for whatever it may be shall lie with thee to use it nobly; this no man can prevent.—Epictetus.

#### And the Colonel Lost.

"What was the longest engagement you ever took part in, colonel?" "It lasted two years, and then the girl married another fellow."—Exchange.

A tombstone is about the only place where the average man doesn't really care to have his name in print.

#### An English Joke.

"What people are always sure of finding the biggest fish near their coast?"

"Give it up."  
"The English, because they can always find Wales."

"Oh, pshaw! Wales isn't whales."  
"No, you stupid. But don't the English drop their h's?"—Cleveland Plain Dealer.

#### The Way With Servants.

Mrs. New—Yes, most of the servant girls are as independent and as impudent as they can be. Now, I believe it's best to take a young greenhorn and train her up in the way she should go and then— Mrs. Olden—First thing you know she goes.—Philadelphia Press.

#### Punishment.

"Tommy," said his mother, who had him across her knee, "this hurts me worse than it does you."

"I was afraid," said Tommy under his breath, "that hard board I put in the seat of my trousers might hurt her hand."—Chicago Journal.

#### Undisguised.

Blobbs—in spite of all the money Newrich spends on his clothes he can't disguise his plebeian origin. Blobbs—No; it's like putting a ten dollar collar on a thirty cent dog.—Philadelphia Record.

The flower of civilization is the finished man, the man of sense, of grace, of accomplishment, of social power—the gentleman.—Emerson.

#### Curious.

"There's one curious thing about discovering places," said Johnny. "Take Bermuda, for instance. It was discovered by a man named Bermudez. How he happened to stumble on a place with a name just like his beats me."

#### How He Won Her.

A Frenchman whose wife deserted him amused his neighbors by telling how he got her back without trouble.

"Did I run after her and beg her to come back?" he dramatically asked. "No; I did not run after her. I must publish in ze papaire zat I have drawn fifty thousand francs in ze lottery, and she vas back much quicker zan in no time."

#### The Only Cure.

Binks—I wish they would cut out these ballad singers at the vaudeville. They make me tired. Jinks—Well, you might get somebody to remove their noses. Then they wouldn't have anything to sing through.—Cincinnati Tribune.

#### Easier to Manage.

Virginia—I have looked the matter over from all sides. Jack offers me a fortune and Harold nothing but his brains. Hazel—I suppose you will take the one you love the best? Virginia—I have concluded that I can take better care of Jack's money than of Harold's brains.—New York Press.

#### In Legal Form.

Suitor—In suing for the hand of your daughter I feel that I am unworthy of her— Lawyer—Enough; we are agreed. The case must stop. Your suit is dismissed!

#### Cheering Kews.

Willie—Pam is going to let you marry sister Featherstone—How do you know? Willie—He said after all it was better than nothing.

#### Engaged For Good.

Clara—Are you engaged to somebody for good? Gertrude—It seems so. Don't think he'll ever leave me.

IN THE AFFIRMATIVE.

Paper Read by Mrs. C. C. Stokes in Shakespeare Club Debate.

Resolved: "That Shylock was more sinned against than sinning."

In discussing this question, to arrive at anything like a just conclusion, all of its environments must be considered. The Jew was an alien in Venice; the law was strenuously protective of the citizen against an alien. This was necessitated because Venice was the "mart of the world," and her resident citizens were the columns that upheld the edifice of her commercial supremacy. The citizen was a fixture, and his conduct was controlled by the future of his own business; the alien was there today, elsewhere tomorrow, and had no interest in the permanent prosperity of Venice. Hence it was not only proper but self-preservative to curb with strong hand the transient alien. Shylock was a Jew, a representative of his race, proud of his people, and wedded to his religion. Sprung from a people, the greatest the world has ever seen, a people who gave to the world its greatest of great men, proud of his history and his people's achievements, Shylock stood, bated like a chained lion, to suffer from yelping curs. He, whose ancestry made history before the first Doge wedded the Adriatic Sea; whose family kinged the earth long before the Roman Eagles blazed a path of conquest for the mighty Caesar's legions; whose family tree flourished in splendid strength before that of the Pharaohs was a shrub; whose men were giants long before the boasted Norman blood had donned its swaddling clothes,—chained by an unjust law, must suffer wrong. A people who had given to the world a poet at whose feet Honor, Virgil, Milton and Shakespeare could sit to learn new songs of deathless poesy, to echo to the "last syllable of recorded time;" who had given a law giver from whom Solon and Lycurgus could gather new rules of justice to govern men; had given a philosopher from whom the mighty Hemlock drinker could get new inspiration to span time with the bow of immortality. In all walks of life, great was the people from which this Jew sprang. He had his religion, taught for ages to his people, and to its precepts he bowed with more than a "Moslem's devotion." That religion taught "An eye for an eye, and a tooth for a tooth." Now, this man is rated and "spat upon in open market," "a dog," "vile usurer," and he dares not strike back because of the alien laws of Venice. What wrong had Shylock done? Charged interest for his money? What more wrong is this than for Antonio to charge profit for his goods? Had Shylock rated him for his equal wrong, what think you would have been the answer? Death, not by law, but by strong hand. In the inception, Shylock is wronged. But Bassanio wants the money, he offers Antonio, and his surety is accepted. But when Shylock tells of his wrongs and offers the palm of peace, "I would be friends with you," insult is hurled again in his teeth, "Treat us with your enemy, not your friend." Again, he is told, will I spit on you, call you dog and rate you as I please in open market. His religion, "Dear to him as the ruddy drop which visits his heart," is scoffed at and abused. His wrongs would warm the blood in the veins of age, and make an old man's sinews strong as steel.

plained of his wrongs and had them again thrust in his face. The one person in the world who could have comforted him at this time deserts and betrays her father. Jessica might have softened the hard lines of her father's character had she been a different daughter, and at least made him forget within that sacred place called home, that he was among enemies. In this respect Shakespeare does the Jew a wrong. With a few bold strokes he gives us an insight into Shylock's home, which according to his own daughter is a perfect hell.

Shakespeare in thus depicting the home life of the Jews, flies squarely in the face of history, for, if there is one thing of which the Jews are justly proud, and which critics must allow, it is the historic purity and sanctity of the Jewish home life. Surely we cannot say that he did not love his daughter, for how often are we thoughtless and even stern to those we love best, when cares are pressing heavily on us; more than all this we have no record that Shylock ever received one kind word from her; added to the fact that Jessica had forgotten every tradition of her race in leaving her home with a Christian, was theft; we can look over her marriage, for that was nature to leave all for the man she loved; but when we see she has robbed her father, given his turquoise for a monkey; and finally revealed his secrets, without any regard to the ties which bound them, and that too to a people who had persecuted her race to an unlimited extent, we can only feel sympathy for the father who has been so cruelly treated. His religion is defiled, the most grievous wrong which could be inflicted upon him. His grief and trouble were made the occasion of bitter jest and gibe. But the wheel turns, the bond is forfeited. He has "caught Antonio on the hip." Can he be blamed for "feeding his revenge fat?" How acts Antonio now? Is he the good and brave man that he sets up to be? No. The merchant is a wiser and let us hope a better man than when he called the Jew "dog." Cringing like a whipped spaniel to this man whom he had spat upon, whom he had refused to treat with as his friend, he comes, whining for mercy. "I pray you hear me speak." But mercy is not to be shown to men who give to fear what they refuse to give to justice. Think you any court of justice would have listened to Portia's plea of mercy? What do you suppose Shylock thought when these same people, who not only withheld the mercy of human kindness from him, but were cruelly unjust and insulting at every opportunity, and now came begging for mercy from him? It sounds beautiful to us now.

"The quality of mercy is not strained," but ah, it fell on deaf ears, when Shylock remembered that not one time in the history of his life among these people had they shown him anything other than unkindness. The measureless hate that Antonio's outrages had engendered in Shylock's heart, is fed by the bitter contempt which the giant feels for the pigmy. When Portia sees that her plea of mercy fails, she turns to the law. In every phase but this we admire our heroine; but here she fails to excite our admiration. The barrier to the enforcement of the forfeiture interposed at an early stage of the trial by Portia was the sheerst puerility. Had Shylock possessed a remedy at law, the mere incident of the shedding of blood, in pressing it, would have been treated as a condition of necessity before the needs of the

contracting parties when the bargain was made. More than this, Portia is found to remark, "This bond doth give thee here no jot of blood." Would not the true doctrine be, that, in the absence of words in the instrument prohibiting the drawing of blood, such inevitable consequence of the knife's dividing the flesh must be read into it. The next element is jurisdiction. Passing over the point that the Duke united in his own person executive and judicial functions—a thing which has not been permitted among civilized nations for many centuries—the judgment surely could have been avoided on the ground that the Duke, even though the fact may have been unknown to him, was guided by a partial assessor. Portia, wife of the man for whom Antonio was surety,—a circumstance in itself enough to have disqualified her—goes over the matter privily with Bellario, her cousin, as we are told in the play, who had not only been apprized of her intimate concern with the business, but agreed, moreover, to be a party to the deception, if there was deception, practised on the Duke, by accrediting a woman as his substitute. He could not, in any event, have doubted that he was not treating with a member of the bar, or even one of his own sex. The ranks of the profession in Venice or Padua were not so over-crowded as to make it possible for him to be ignorant that a fraud was being practised upon him by Portia. The underhand game that was resorted to leads to the inquiry, could the judgment have stood after it had been made

Our Private Cost Mark Exhibited

YOUR ATTENTION FOR A MINUTE.

\$50,000 STOCK

AT ABSOLUTE COST

Complete and fresh lines of Ladies' Jackets, Skirts, Underwear, Hosiery, Shawls, Laces, Dress Goods of all description—and the famous Dorothy Dodd Shoes.

Gentlemen's Fine Tailored Suits and Overcoats, Underwear and Wearing Apparel too numerous to mention.

One solid car load of Cooking Stoves, two cars of magnificent Furniture, and one car of the famous Studebaker Wagons, all unloaded this week.

One of our members withdrawing on Jan. 1, and neither of the firm wanting to carry the enormous stock, has caused us to decide to turn same over to the public at actual cost.

Our private cost mark will be distributed throughout our two big stores. You can wait on yourself, and pay your own price, which is cost.

Saturday, November 12th, 1904, to January 1st, 1905,

This Cost Sale Will Run

Don't Miss the Opportunity of Your Life

Remember the date, November 12th, 1904, to January 1st, 1905, and also remember that our cost mark will be in your hands, and you can buy without any limitation as to quantity. Come and see for yourself. Our stock must go.

THE ANGELINA COUNTY TRADING COMPANY,

Lufkin, Texas.

S. MAIER

Brewers' Agent, and

Wholesale Dealer in Liquors and Cigars

Nancy Hanks Four full quarts; Express charges paid by us \$3.20

Paul Jones Four Star Pure Rye, per bottle (4 bottles or over, express paid by us) 1.00

Bell Brook One full quart (4 bottles or over, express paid by us) 1.00

PARKER RYE, CLUB HOUSE, Rye or Bourbon, 10 Years Old. EDGEWOOD, Rye or Bourbon, and Many Other Leading Brands of Whiskey

BARREL GOODS

Double Stamped, Full Proof and Over.

Blue Grass, McBrayer, Russell, Edge Cliff, Shaw Rye and many other leading brands at \$3.00 to \$4.00 per gallon. Alcohol, also imported and domestic Gin, Wines and Brandies.

All Orders Promptly Attended Same Day as Received.

S. MAIER

Wholesale and Retail Liquor Dealer

PALESTINE, TEXAS.

Nelson and Draughon Business College

FOR WORTH, TEXAS

Offers better facilities for the comfort and rapid advancement of its pupils than any other college. A thorough course in bookkeeping and position secured. By our method, bookkeeping and banking can be learned in eight weeks. Many of our students occupy positions as stenographers at the end of three months. We teach all commercial branches—Bookkeeping, Banking, shorthand, touch typing, penmanship, Commercial Law, Mathematics, English, Telegraphy, etc. Home study course free. Positions secured or money refunded. Address: J. W. Draughon, President Nelson and Draughon Business College, Corner Sixth and Main Streets Fort Worth, Texas, for Catalogue.

# SUPREME IN HOUSTON COUNTY

# THE CROCKETT COURIER

Publication Office  
Crockett, - Texas  
\$1.00 a Year

## FARM LANDS

Along  
"THE DENVER ROAD"  
In Northwest Texas  
(The Panhandle)

Are advancing in value at rate of 20 per cent per annum.

**DO YOU KNOW OF  
ANY EQUAL INVESTMENT?**

As our assistance may be of great value toward securing what you need or wish, as regards either Agricultural Properties or Business Opportunities, and will cost nothing, why not use us! Drop us a postal.

A. A. GLISSON, Gen'l Pass. Agt.  
FORT WORTH, TEXAS.

## Absolutely Free

Chance at an \$85.00 Organ  
THE COURIER SUBSCRIPTION \$1.00.

JAMES DeDAINES,

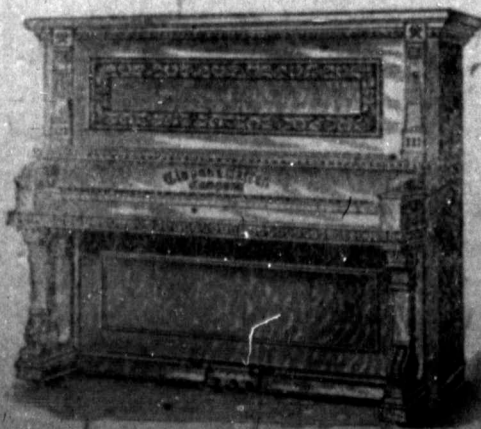
Musical

Instrument

and Supplies

I sell 7 different makes of Pianos ranging in price from \$1100 to \$200—5 different makes of Organs.

These goods are sold on installment plan. Purchasers will save from 25 to 30 per cent by buying organs from store. I keep a full stock of small instruments and supplies. Call and see us. N. W. Cor. square.



### IN THE AFFIRMATIVE.

Continued from page 2

to appear that the assessor—the real judge—was incapacitated, both through her course of action, and by reason of her gender, from discharging the duties of the office? We cannot keep down the suspicion that the Duke had not been left in the dark with regard to Portia's designs. The palpable bias exhibited by the character of the whole scene and the sentence forms the strongest argument for the belief that the Duke was in her confidence throughout, and adds one more link in the strong chain already formed in our minds, that Shylock was more sinned against than sinning. Look you how Antonio changes as soon as he sees that he is saved, the old unjust treatment at once comes to the surface, and he prefers the monstrous request that Shylock should change his faith in—return for the merchant's partial relinquishment of his right—to a moiety of his creditor's possessions. The Duke at once falls in with it, backing his compliance with the announcement that, unless the Jew does so, "I do recant the pardon that I late pronounced here."

And now we see the strongest character Shakespeare ever portrayed, bowed down, spirit broken, realizing that for him there is no justice; to the man who stole his daughter even he must give up that very thing which his enemies have scoffed at him for keeping—give up that faith for which he would have died. Here again is an instance where Shakespeare completely misrepresents the Jewish spirit. When Shylock is guaranteed his life if he will turn Christian, he mutters, "I am content." This is the crown of misrepres-

entation. The Jew has suffered for his religion and died for it. No pain, no oppression, no cruelty could force from his lips the coward words: "I am content."

From an ethical standpoint this is the weakest part of the play. If it were intended to show in this incident that Shylock loved money better than his religion, what is to be said of the religion which lends itself to tempting a man to be false? Assuredly Jesus and Paul would have repudiated Christianity like this. Shorn of his rights and possessions by unfair legal technicalities and degraded, what of the debasement of the church that received him into its bosom as a member? Is it not to be wondered that when Antonio first begged for mercy from Shylock he did not spit upon him, or strike him dead in his infamy? But the boasted law of Venice—he must go to his work under that, and that only. His wrongs could only be righted thus, and now he is made to realize there is no law for a Jew. And yet we attempt to argue he was not more sinned against than sinning? He had his enemy in the toils—what fool or craven would have swallowed his wrongs and loosed the cord? Was this "eye for an eye or tooth for a tooth?" Was this the defense which he, a Jew, must make for the many bitter attacks on his God-given religion? Was this the reply he must give back to the revilings of his ancestry and kindred?

Napoleon cheered his army with: "Twenty centuries look down on you."

The proud annals of twice twenty centuries looked down upon Shylock in that Venetian court. Nelson declared: "England expects every man to do his duty."

A greater than England "in her songs from out the distance," raises a battle cry to Shylock to be true to his country and to her people. Had he blanchied from the

ordeal, even the cunning art of the poet could not have saved him from contempt. The highest dramatic art demanded that Shylock must right his wrongs, and he struck back only as the wronged can strike back—with deep and deadly hate. And he is to blame?

He has sinned more than he is sinned against? Why? Because he demanded his right? Because he took the only course open to him to right the many wrongs heaped upon him? "Has reason fled to brutish beasts" that this man, because unprotected by the law, shall suffer wrong without attempting under that very law to protect himself?

He was right—and every emotion of justice tells us that Shylock had every right to protect himself as best he could under laws unjust to himself. And more than this, Shylock stood alone—no friend in all his wrongs had offered a word to soften his bitterness. He must fight his own fight, and that, too, against the court, the duke, and even justice, which is the very least that can be meted out to any of God's creatures.

"I was much afflicted with sciatica," writes Ed C. Nud, Lowaville, Sedgwick Co., Kan., "going about on crutches and suffering a great deal of pain. I was induced to try Ballard's Snow Liniment, which relieved me. I used three 50c bottles. It is the greatest liniment I ever used; have recommended it to a number of persons; all express themselves as being benefited by it. I now walk without crutches, able to perform a great deal of light labor on the farm." 25c, 50c, \$1.00. Sold by Smith & French Drug Co.

**Case Cayuga's Mysteries.**  
The Cayuga is one of the wonders of the eastern states. It is situated in the central New York and is upward of forty miles in length, with an average breadth of but three miles. One of its peculiarities is this: Although hundreds of persons have been drowned in its waters since the settlement of the adjacent territory, not a single corpse has so far been recovered, and it is a common saying that "Lake Cayuga never gives up its dead." Those who have made an attempt to fathom this remarkable sheet of water is simply a series of large openings and craterlike cavities, the entire lake bed having the appearance of being one large honeycomb, each of the well-like holes being reputed to be bottomless.

Another Cayuga mystery is its irregular tides. There is no stated time for their appearance, but when they do come they are very decided, the water often instantly receding 50 to 100 feet and as quickly returning with a roar that can be heard for miles.—Exchange.

**The "Magic Mirror" of Japan.**  
The "magic mirror" of Japan is a disk of bronze, usually from six to eight inches in diameter. It is silvered on the front, which is a little convex, and there is a raised pattern on the back, which is rather concave. The polished pattern is generally a landscape, flowers, animals or Chinese characters. It is not visible in the front of the mirror, but when strong sunlight is reflected from the front of the mirror to a wall or screen the pattern of the back is visible on the screen in bright lines on a black ground. Professor W. E. Ayrton, F. R. S., with Professor John Perry, F. R. S., was the first to give the true scientific explanation of this magical effect. It seems that the design on the back alters the convexity of the front, making it flat—in fact, along the lines of the pattern. Consequently the light reflected from the front is not dispersed at these points of the design, and they appear brighter on the screen.—London Globe.

**Fighting the Inevitable.**  
Nearly all great scientific discoveries have been combated and misunderstood even by the intelligent. Even Sir Charles Napier fiercely opposed the introduction of steam power into the royal navy and one day exclaimed in the house of commons:  
"Mr. Speaker, when we enter her majesty's naval service and face the chances of war we go prepared to be hacked in pieces by cutlasses, to be riddled with bullets or to be blown to bits by shot and shell; but, Mr. Speaker, we do not go prepared to be boiled alive."

The last words he brought out with tremendous emphasis. Steam power in men-of-war, with boilers which at any moment might be shattered by an enemy's shot—this was a prospect he would not face.

Yet in a few years he found himself in command of the largest steam navy the world had ever seen.

**A Mathematical Puzzle.**  
Here is a strange little puzzle, which has the same answer, independent of the fact that no two people solving the puzzle were born the same year and consequently use the same figures. Write down the figures of the year you were born and from this take away four. Add your age at next birthday if it comes before January, otherwise your age at your last birthday. Multiply the result by 1,000 and from this deduct 685,423. Substitute for the figures corresponding letters of the alphabet, as A for 1, B for 2, etc. The result is a Chinese table delicacy which is used in this country for electioneering purposes. Strike out the first letter and transpose those that remain to form a word.

**Anaemia.**  
The word anaemia is of modern origin. It was first mentioned by Albert Michel in 1732 in a thesis entitled "De Anaemia." However, if the nomenclature is new, the morbid condition indicated by the word was at all times well known. Hippocrates devoted several pages to a description of this particular condition, but Halle was the first to apply the term to a malady which was prevalent in 1802 among the miners of Anzin, in the north of France, and of which he gave a detailed description.

**A Candid Critic.**  
Candid Critic—Awfully good song that you ought to be with Carl Rosa. Jones (feeling rather flattered)—Really, do you think so? Awfully kind of you to say—but Carl Rosa is dead. Candid Critic—Yes. I said you ought to be with him.—London Tatler.

**Tommy Knows.**  
Mamma (to a friend who is lurching with her)—I don't know why it is, but I always eat more when we have company than when we're alone. Tommy (helping himself to a third piece of cake)—I know why it is—'cause we have better things to eat.

**The Sustaining Power.**  
"A hundred dollar bill will sustain a weight of forty-seven pounds lengthwise and a treasury note, it

will also sustain a man for a couple of months in a fairly good boarding house.—Washington Post.

**Sudden.**  
Tom—But isn't your love for Miss Platum rather sudden? Jack—I suppose so. But, you see, her rich aunt died rather suddenly.

**Changeable.**  
Parke—He says he dresses according to the climate. Rowe—if he did that he wouldn't have time to do anything else.—Town Topics.

**Lee's Military Genius.**  
One day during the war between the states General Lee sent for General Gordon and said to him: "Take these regiments"—mentioning some—"and go to Spottsylvania. Be there tomorrow morning."

In surprise, General Gordon asked why troops were needed at that particular spot.

"Because," replied General Lee, "Grant will be there."

Nothing had been heard of Grant's movements for a long time, but General Gordon supposed General Lee had had some dispatches which had informed him of Grant's nearness. He asked if this was so.

"No," said Lee, "but Grant ought to be there, and he will be." Lee was a great general himself and knew what a great general should do. He had studied out Grant's plans from the place where he last heard of him and decided where he would next make his appearance.

General Gordon went to Spottsylvania. Grant was there, and one of the fiercest battles of the war was fought.

**The Buffalo Wallows.**

A curiosity of the plains is the buffalo wallows. There has not been a buffalo in them for years, but they are the same today as they were generations or even centuries ago. They are no longer frequented by cattle, of course, and therefore not freshly worn, but they remain to this day barren and black amid the vast plain of living green. In the spring they stand full of water until the advancing summer sun evaporates it, and then they are barren and black again. They are perfect circles, some large as a circus ring, and their basins are packed firm and hard by the tread and roll of many generations of the bison. Another recollection here of this extinct race is the buffalo birds, which abound in great numbers. Their function now, as in the time of the bison, is to pick insects from the backs of the cattle which feed on the plains. Sometimes twenty or more feed on a steer's back, while the steer calmly and with evident pleasure munches buffalo grass.—Kansas City Star.

**It Was All Good.**

Mr. Jones was very fond of a kind of boiled pudding his wife made, so, says London Answers, when she had gone away for an afternoon and evening she promised that she would leave one of the favored puddings in the saucepan for his evening meal.

"Well," she said on her return, "and how did the pudding go down?"

"So-preme!" said Tom, smacking his lips at the recollection. "Twas as good a pudding as you have ever made."

"That's good," was the gratified response of Mrs. Jones. "I'm glad you enjoyed it. What did you do with the cloth?"

For a moment Mr. Jones solemnly surveyed her.

"What?" he said. "Did it have a cloth on?"

**The True Ideal.**

The true ideal that should fill a man's heart and fire his energies is excellence in his own sphere, the living of his own particular life just as fully and nobly as he—not somebody else—can. True, this is an unknown quantity, but it is a real and attainable one. Day by day it is rising, and day by day a man may feel conscious of increased power. Whether it may lead him he cannot tell, but that by its guidance he will go farther and accomplish more than by any other he may rest assured. Attempting nothing impossible, he is doomed to no inevitable disappointment, nor is there any limit at which he may cease to strive.—Self Help.

**A Pineapple Plantation.**

The first operation in starting a pineapple plantation is to cut off the hammock growth and clear the area, though the stumps of the larger trees are left standing. The "silps," which are simply growths from the old plants, are usually put in with a pointed stick at the rate of 12,000 to the acre. The first crop matures in about eighteen months, and when three crops are secured, in as many years, the fields are abandoned for this culture, the surface again cleared and planted in tomatoes.

**Facts About Breathing.**

In the ordinary respiration of man 16 or 17 cubic inches of atmospheric air pass into the lungs 20 times a minute, or a cubic foot every 5 1/2 minutes—274 cubic feet in 24 hours. The lungs hold 230 cubic feet. At each respiration 1.575 of oxygen is converted into carbonic acid gas. The nitrogen inspired and expired is exactly equal. During the act of inspiration the lungs have been found to be the coldest parts of the body.

## THE HORSESHOE.

**It Has Always Been Accounted an Emblem of Good Luck.**

The origin of belief in "horseshoe luck" is so ancient that it never has been determined with certainty, and no superstition is more universal. Ever since horses began to wear shoes those crescents of iron have been accounted lucky emblems of all peoples, races and nations that have been acquainted with their use.

The Chinese, for instance, say they nail them up over their doors as a charm against evil spirits because of the close resemblance in shape between them and the arched body of the sacred snake, Nagandra, one of their principal deities.

Ask a Turkish Mohammedan for information on the subject, and he will tell you that it is because they are in form like a crescent, the sacred emblem of Islam.

A Polish Jew will explain that at the passover the blood sprinkled upon the lintel and doorposts in the manner directed by their ritual forms the chief points of an arch; hence, obviously, the value of arch shaped talismans such as horseshoes are.

The stolid and unimaginative Russian peasant, on the other hand, maintains that the luck associated with the horseshoe is due chiefly to the metal, irrespective of its shape, iron being traditionally a charm wherewith to nullify the malevolent designs of evil spirits and goblins.

Very different is the story by which the Irishman seeks to account for his liking for the same talismanic symbol. The name "Iroclad" or "Ireland," he will tell you, originated as follows:

The whole island was once submerged in the sea, out of which it only rose once in seven years and then only for a short time. Many attempts had been made to break the spell and induce the country to remain permanently above the water, but all were vain until one day a daring adventurer threw a horseshoe from a boat on the topmost peak of Wicklow mountains just as they were disappearing beneath the waves. Then, at last, was the ban removed. The Emerald Isle began forthwith to rise again from the ocean depths into which it had sunk. And it has been dry land, more or less, ever since.

In England up to comparatively recent times horseshoes were extensively used almost everywhere as anti-witch charms, and the custom is not even yet an extinct one. No witch, it used to be said, could enter a building over the door of which a horseshoe or, better still, three horseshoes had been a fixed, proge downward.

The origin of this particular belief is referable to the old legend of St. Dunstan. This versatile English ecclesiastic was a skilled farrier, and one day while at work in his forge the evil one entered in disguise and requested Dunstan to shoe his "single hoof." The saint, although he at once recognized his malicious customer, acceded, but caused him so much pain during the operation that Satan begged him to desist. This Dunstan did, but only after he had made the evil one promise that neither he nor any of the lesser spirits, his servants, would ever molest the inmates of a house where a horseshoe was displayed.—Chicago Chronicle.

**Lovers and Friends.**

Next to the married people who are lovers they are happiest who are thoroughly good friends. The greater includes the less, so that genuine lovers are always friends. Just as friendship often ripens into love, so also, while passionate love rarely cools off into friendship, the true husband or wife is always the other's truest friend.

True friendship makes a quietly happy marriage, because friends make each other's interests their own. They have similar tastes and that congeniality of disposition and pursuits which go far to make up compatibility in marriage.

For never was any man yet, as I ween, be he whosoever he may, Who has known what a true friend is and has wished that knowledge away.

The society of a sympathetic friend is always pleasant, and there is a tonic stimulant in it which keeps one's feelings fresh and quickens one's ambitions and aspirations. Even if a husband and wife have not been friends in the truest sense of the word before marriage it is a duty and ought to be a pleasure to become so afterward, an end which may easily be achieved if each is steadfastly purposed to do his or her part in the matter.—Woman's Life.

**The Villain's Attack.**

An amusing incident not down on the bill once occurred in an Albany theater. One of the actresses purchased a coat at a North Pearl street store and ordered it sent to the theater. A small boy was delegated to deliver the garment, and he arrived at the theater when the actress was busy delivering her lines on the stage. The manager of the show ascertained the boy's errand and told him that when the curtain dropped he could go back on the stage and collect the money due. In the meantime the manager directed one of the ushers to place the boy in a private box. The one nearest the stage on the right hand side was selected, and the youth settled down to enjoy

the play. He was just getting interested when the villain rushed on, and, looking directly where the boy was sitting, he exclaimed:

"You here! Out this instant! Begone, base fellow!"

The messenger didn't wait for any further trouble. He left the theater and hurried back to the store, where he informed the boss that the woman's husband had put him out. The affair was straightened out later in the afternoon, and everybody connected with it had a good laugh.—Albany Journal.

**Roman Gormands.**

The wealthy gormands of Rome cherished a strong partiality for song birds. Both Horace and Martial refer with approval to roast thrush, and Ovid recommends "a crown of thrushes" as a lover's present to his mistress. Thrushes' breasts were one of the ingredients of the celebrated Apician dish, "Patina apicana," which also included becafcos, mushrooms, sow's udder, fish and chickens, rivaling the heterogeneous contents of a gypsy's "pot au feu."

Horace relates that the sons of Actina, to stimulate their appetite for dinner, lunched on "nightingales of monstrous price," and Varro tells us of the aviary of Lucullus, which was also a "salle a manger," so that the epicure gratified his ears and his palate simultaneously, feasting upon the delicate warblers whose congeners, unconscious of their coming doom, were discoursing meanwhile the most exquisite music.

**Fen Down and Feathers.**

Adulteration laws were quite as necessary in the good old days as in the sophisticated twentieth century. Even the adulteration of feather beds and bolsters had to be provided against. Oct. 14, 1435, is the date of a statute prohibiting the sale in English fairs or markets of these articles or of pillows, "except they be stuffed with one manner of feathers." It expressly denounced the use of such "unlawful and corrupt stuffs" as "scalded feathers, or fen down." The last substance is the same as cotton grass and was evidently in great demand as a substitute in bed stuffing. In the eighteenth century again there were complaints against people who bought fen down at a halfpenny a pound and sold it among feathers at sixpence.

**Franklin and Kings.**

In the writings of Thomas Jefferson are some interesting anecdotes of Benjamin Franklin. He says: "When Dr. Franklin went to France on his Revolutionary mission his eminence as a philosopher, his venerable appearance and the cause on which he was sent rendered him extremely popular. All ranks and conditions of men entered warmly into the American interest. He was, therefore, feasted and invited to all court parties. At these he sometimes met the old Duchess of Bourbon, who, being a chess player of about his force, very generally played with him. Happening once to put her king into prize, the doctor took it. 'Ah,' said she, 'we do not take kings so.' 'We do in America,' said the doctor.

**Rum Better But.**

In certain districts in England a mixture of butter, sugar, spices and rum, called "rum butter," is made when a child is born. A special bowl of the delicacy is hidden in some out of the way place in the house. Then a number of young fellows of the neighborhood search for it. Sometimes they succeed in locating it and at other times they fail. After eating the rum butter a collection is made among those present, and the money contributed is placed in the bowl for the newborn child and returned along with the bowl to the house where it was procured.—London Spectator.

**Married to a Dead Tiger.**

A curious custom obtains among the Coorgs. When one of them kills a tiger or a panther, he is married to the dead animal, regardless of its sex. Propped upon a framework of wood or bamboo, the animal is carried in procession, and the marriage ritual is strictly observed, while lavish hospitality is dispensed.—Calcutta Statesman.

**Silenced.**

Housekeeper—Those eggs you sold me were stale, and I asked you for fresh laid eggs. Dealer—Those eggs are fresh, madam, not salted, and they are laid eggs, madam, not manufactured. Had you desired eggs recently taken from the nest you should have asked for freshly laid eggs.

**Time's Changes.**

"It used to please me," said Olden, "to have the barber ask me if I wanted a shave when I was a youngster."

"Yes?"

"Yes, and now he sometimes flatters me by asking if I want a hair cut."

Philadelphia Ledger.

**A Mean Insinuation.**

Towne—There goes Slopsy. He must be in debt again. Browne—Why, he looks quite prosperous. That suit of his is quite new. Towne—Yes, that's why I say he must be in debt.

We regret the low voices of those who pay us compliments almost as much as we regret the high voices of those who abuse us.—Atchison Globe.

## "Ben Hur."

Klaw & Erlanger's world-famous spectacular production of Gen. Lew Wallace's novel, "Ben Hur," will be staged at the Houston Theatre the entire week of December 26th. Nothing more beautiful, inspiring, spiritual and edifying than "The Healing of the Lepers" in the last act of this stupendous spectacle has ever been offered on the stage of an American theatre. At this point this great play is truly and in a very high sense "religious." Here the stage seems to have consecrated itself and all its resources to the service of Christianity, and there is nothing that is not reverent, beautiful and altogether fitting in its service. This scene and the widely advertised chariot race in the act preceding it are the great special features of the play, which give it much of its wonderful value and extraordinary power.

If the American drama had done absolutely nothing worthy in its long career but this—had its fame to rest solely upon this one noble product of Messrs. Klaw & Erlanger—it has justified its existence, for in this at least it has shown that the stage may be given over to uses wholly worthy, highly commendable and which cannot fail to exert the greatest possible blessing on mankind—that of bringing home with immense force and dignity the eternal truth and variety of the birth into the world of Jesus, the Savior of mankind.

To every man, no matter what his condition, "Ben Hur" has its appeal. It appeals to the deep-grained, firm rooted religious feeling in the human heart, and brings back with directness the simple lessons and divine truths that every man born in a Christian land learned at his mother's knee.

My son, follow not the footsteps of the loafer, and make no example of him who is born tired; verily I say unto you, their business is overstocked, and the seats in the corner are all taken, and the whittling places are all occupied. It is better to saw wood at two bits a cord than to whittle in a loafing match and cuss the government. My son, while thou hast left in thou skull the sense of a jay bird, break away from the cigarette habit, for lo, thy breath stinketh like a glue factory, and thy whole appearance is less intelligent than a stone dummy. Yes, thou art a cipher with the rim knocked off.—Bob Burdette.

## Heart Fluttering.

Undigested food and gas in the stomach, located just below the heart, presses against it and causes heart palpitation. When your heart troubles you in that way take Herbine for a few days. You will soon be all right. 50c. Sold by Smith & French Drug 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, 1903." Ballard's Horehound Syrup would have saved him. 25c, 50c and \$1.00. Sold by Smith & French Drug Co.

Save, Prompt, Positive  
Cure for Impotence, Loss  
of Manhood, Seminal  
Emissions, Spermatocystitis,  
Neurasthenia, Self-Destructive,  
Loss of Memory, etc. Will  
make you a STRONG, Vigorous  
Man. Price \$1.00, 50  
Cents, 25 Cents.  
Special Directions Mailed  
with each Box. Address  
Ballard's Great Peppermint  
Cure, 2310 Union Ave.,  
ST. LOUIS, MO.  
Sold by Smith & French Drug Co.  
CROCKETT, TEXAS.

## Local Items.

Velvets from 25c up at the Big Store.

W. F. Kelley of Kennard was here Tuesday.

Jas. S. Shivers & Co. want to buy all your cotton.

Buy your nails, barbed and hog fencing wire, from the Big Store.

J. N. Wellborn and family have returned to Crockett from Lovelady.

Holiday goods, toys, Christmas presents, no old stock, at Crysups' drug store.

Don't let your subscription to the Delineator stop. Let the Big Store renew it for you.

J. D. Freeman of Lovelady was here Monday and G. E. Darsey of Grapeland Tuesday.

### Oliver.

The best plow on earth, for sale only at the Big Store.

Remember the supper given by the ladies of the Presbyterian church Thursday evening, Dec. 8.

W. H. Holcomb of Augusta was here Tuesday and renewed his subscription to the COURIER.

Tell Santa Claus to buy you a pair of those nice shoes from the Big Store.

W. A. Atteberry of Kennard, agent for the Louisiana and Texas Lumber company, was here Tuesday.

Patronize the Presbyterian church supper at the church parlors Thursday evening, Dec. 8. Price 50 cents.

The county board of examiners for teachers' certificates was in session Saturday and had a number of applications before it.

The Big Store is now closing out their clothing stock at prices that have no parallel in the mercantile history of Houston county. Go and get a good suit cheap.

A choice collection of gift things—things which are at once useful and beautiful—at Crysups' drug store at prices in keeping with 6 cent cotton.

Commissioners' court was in session Saturday to approve the bonds of the newly elected county officials. The commissioners will meet again next Saturday to conclude the work.

For the holidays J. T. Crysups has on display an attractive line of goods suitable for Christmas or wedding presents, a large line of toys and no old stock. See him.

Nat Patton has resigned as teacher of the Enon school near Grapeland and accepted a position as assistant in the Ratcliff school. His successor at Enon had not been named Saturday.

Crysups' stock of holiday goods—toys, Christmas presents, etc.—was selected with the greatest care by an experienced buyer, and its artistic excellence and genuineness cannot be surpassed.

Two families of Huns, with two and five children respectively, arrived Sunday afternoon to work in the Wetzel-Smith orchard. More of them came Monday. They are a big, stout-looking people and are said to be hard workers.

The Texas Methodist conference in session at Marshall, sends Rev. Morland Whaling to Columbia. Rev. G. A. LeClere, who preceded Mr. Whaling as pastor of the Crockett church, goes to Harrisburg. Rev. J. B. Sears remains residing elder of this district and Rev. J. A. Hodges will be the new pastor of the Crockett church.

## Largest Stock! Lowest Prices!

Our Prescription Department  
Our Drug Department  
Our Stationery Department  
Our Sundry Department

Drugs bought right can be sold right. The Drugs we sell we guarantee. The Prescriptions we fill we guarantee. Your Drug business is what we want, and to keep you as our customer we are careful as to our purchaser and careful that the Drug we buy is pure and fresh.

## B. J. Chamberlain, THE DRUGGIST.

The Big Stores sell the best of everything.

Hon. I. A. Daniel of Kennard was here the first of the week.

Gents, the Big Store can please you best in all your furnishings.

J. W. Sweet has returned to Crockett from Chicago and will engage in the potato business.

The Big Store's millinery department is giving you special inducements in dress and street hats in order to reduce stock prior to taking inventory.

N. S. Davis, travelling passenger agent of the Fort Worth and Denver railroad, was here Friday, looking up business for his road next summer to Colorado.

"The best of all" is the general opinion of those who have seen that display of holiday goods—toys, Christmas presents, etc.—no old stock, at Crysups' drug store.

### Man Wanted.

Man and wife without children. Man to work on farm and woman to cook for hands and keep house. Wages reasonable, job one year. Apply to J. H. SMITH.

The friends here of Miss Jessie Sheridan, who is in San Antonio for her health, will be glad to know that she is improving. Such is the report from her mother, who is with her.

John T. Clark and Miss Jenie Kenley were married at Groveton on Thursday of last week. The bride is well connected at Groveton and the groom stands well here, where he has lived for the past four years. They will make their home in this city.

The entertainment at the court house Friday night was of a high order and enjoyable. 'Tis a pity that Crockett has no opera hall for the amusement loving part of its population to enjoy these entertainments in. The patronage is not at fault.

The East Texas Medical association convened in Crockett Thursday and Friday of last week. While the attendance was not large, there were some distinguished representatives of the medical profession present. A banquet by the local physicians was tendered the visitors Thursday evening.

Dan J. Kennedy, who has been in poor health since last summer, is improving at Hot Springs. He was operated on at Galveston during the summer for appendicitis and it was feared by the local physicians that another operation would have to be performed, but the specialist at Hot Springs advises against it, giving as his diagnosis that Mr. Kennedy has neither appendicitis nor, as was also feared, tuberculosis, but is suffering from a general breakdown.

Buster Brown collars and belts, at the Big Store.

Hon. and Mrs. C. C. Stokes returned Sunday afternoon from St. Louis, where they witnessed the closing of the world's fair.

### For Rent.

Fifty acres fine land on half; 40 acres on third and fourth. Two good 4-room houses, good water and fences. Will furnish meat and bread. THIS OFFICE.

### Church Supper.

The Ladies' Aid Society of the Presbyterian church will give a supper Thursday night, Dec. 8, at church parlors. The supper will consist of turkey, oysters, salads and cake. Price 50c. 2t

B. F. Chamberlain has sold his stock of drugs to S. L. Murchison. They closed the doors the first of the week to take an inventory of the stock. Mr. Chamberlain has always done a good business and his reasons for selling out are not known.

### For Sale.

23 head Poland China pigs, six months old. Pedigree furnished with each pig sold. Gilts and boars, prices right.

D. T. ADAIR,  
Daniel, Texas.

### Gin Notice.

The East Texas Ginning and Milling Co. will gin only on Tuesday and Wednesday of each week during the rest of the season and those having cotton unginced will please govern themselves accordingly.

The COURIER is going to give away to some one of its readers, absolutely without cost to any one except the paper, a beautiful organ that retails every day in the year for \$85. No chances at the organ are for sale or will be sold. They do not cost you one cent extra. You simply subscribe for the paper, pay a year in advance and all back dues if any, and we make you a present of a chance. If you do not get the organ, you are none the worse off. If you do get it, you are that much ahead.

### Our Honor Roll.

The following have paid their subscriptions to the COURIER since its last issue: J. D. Friend, W. E. Brown, F. W. Warfield, E. A. Snell, Harvey Robinson, Jas. DeDaines, John Howard, S. E. Jensen, J. A. Goolsby, Fed Morton, J. J. Cooper, T. B. Perry, Giles Barrs, B. F. Chamberlain, John Baker, John Brightman, First National Bank, C. I. Aldrich, T. D. Craddock, W. R. Lewis, Mrs. J. R. Lewis, A. B. Burton, H. L. Burton, J. T. Crysups, Everett Douglass, J. G. Haring, R. E.

## Money to Loan.

We Buy and Sell Real Estate.  
List Your Land With Us.

Fire Insurance Written in Best Companies.

**WARFIELD BROTHERS,**  
Office Over J. E. Monk's Store.

McConnell, W. V. McConnell, S. H. Platt, Tom Self, T. R. Dempree, John I. Moore, G. M. Waller, B. B. Warfield, J. C. Wooters, A. H. Wooters, Jack Smith, J. R. Sheridan, Walker King, King & Millar, Chas. Hall, Allen Newton, Johnson Phillips, J. S. Newniam, R. T. Payne.

### The Soil Survey.

Mr. W. T. Carter Jr. has presented the COURIER with a copy of the soil survey, statistics and map, of Worcester county, Maryland, which survey was made by himself and Mr. F. E. Bonsteel. It covers in detail the field operations of the bureau of soils in that section and gives a comprehensive idea of the work now being carried on by Messrs. Carter and Kocher in this county, under the direction of the bureau of soils. The cost of this work to the government is approximately \$2 25 a square mile and there are twelve hundred square miles in Houston county. The work now being done in this county by the bureau represents an expenditure of from \$2500 to \$3000 and the time required to complete the work will be seven or eight months. Thus we see that Houston county is already receiving some of the benefits of the soil survey.

### Notice to Tax Payers.

For the convenience of tax payers, I will be at the following places with the 1904 tax rolls on the dates specified: Augusta Monday and Tuesday, Dec. 5 and 6; Weches Wednesday and Thursday, Dec. 7 and 8; Kennard Mill Monday and Tuesday, Dec. 12 and 13; Lovelady Thursday and Friday, Dec. 15 and 16; Creek Monday and Tuesday, Dec. 19 and 20; Porter Springs Wednesday and Thursday, Dec. 21 and 22, 1904.

As poll taxes cannot be paid by mail parties living at a distance from the county seat will save time by calling at some of above appointments and getting receipts.

Respectfully,  
JOHN W. BRIGHTMAN,  
Tax Collector Houston Co., Tex.

### For Sale.

Thos. Goggan piano, almost new, in perfect order, actual bargain if sold at once. Apply at City Bakery. 3t

Pure Drugs,  
Fresh Drugs,  
Patent Medicines,  
School Books,  
School Supplies,  
Bottom Prices.

**SMITH & FRENCH DRUG CO.**

### Car of Trees for Crockett.

The first full car of nursery stock ever delivered at Crockett will arrive about the 20th of December and will consist of over 65,000 fine selected trees. All interested parties should be sure to go to the car, personally inspect the stock and inquire as to prices. Our Mr. Bushway will be at the Hotel Howard when car arrives. ALVIN FRUIT AND NURSERY CO., Alcoa, Texas.

### Cured Paralysis.

W. S. Baily, P. O. True, Texas, writes: "My wife had been suffering five years with paralysis in her arm, when I was persuaded to use Ballard's Snow Liniment, which cured her all right. I have also used it for old sores, frost-bites and skin eruptions. It does the work." 25c. 50c. \$1.00. Sold by Smith & French Drug Co.

## SPOONER PAT. COLLAR!

Cannot Choke a Horse. Adjusts itself to any horse's neck. Has two rows of stitching. Will hold frames in place.

None Genuine Unless Stamped with our "Trade-Mark." When you want a collar that will not hurt your horse, buy the Spooner at the Saddle Shop. G. M. WALLER.

HERE COMES SANTA CLAUS

## To "The Novelty Store,"

LOADED DOWN FOR THE RICH AND POOR.

All eyes are now turned toward Xmas, and the Novelty Store has a beautiful collection of Chinaware, Tinware, Toys and Dolls—yes, dolls of all kinds, hundreds of dolls, dolls at all prices—and our prices will attract you. So, mothers, come and bring the little ones. Cotton has gone down and the country feels it, and the Novelty Store is going to sell cheaper than ever before. Listen at a few prices—Men's and boy's caps 5c, boy's wool hats 15c, boy's ribbed hose 5 and 10c, boy's pants 25 to 45c, boy's shirts 25c, boy's and girl's union suits 25c. You can't beat our 25c undervest for ladies. Ladies' zephyr shawls from 25c to \$1.50. Our \$5.00 and \$6.00 beaver jackets now going at \$3.00 and \$4.00. We have ladies' jackets as low as \$1.50. Ladies' #4 skirts now \$3, ladies' \$3.50 skirts now \$2.50, ladies' \$2.00 skirts now \$1.50, ladies' \$1.50 skirts

now \$1.00, misses' \$1.75 skirts now \$1.25. We are making a big reduction on ladies' hats. You can't beat our \$1.50 pants and our 75c fleece lined undersuit for men. We have just received a half car of tinware. Come and see what we have and get our prices.

SPECIAL—Old Santa Claus, wants to see the little ones' pa's and ma's.

## The Novelty Store.



**Publisher's Notice.**

Obituaries, resolutions, cards of thanks or other matter not "news" will be charged for at the rate of 5 cents per line. Parties ordering advertising or printing for societies, churches, committees or organizations may kind will, in all cases, be held personally responsible for the payment of the bill.

**FOR GOOD ROADS.**

There is no question before the people of Crockett and Houston county of greater importance than that of good roads. The whole state of Texas for that matter is behind the times and at a disadvantage in this respect. In many sections of this country the roads become impassable during the rainy season and when they dry up are left in such a condition that they can be classed as nothing more than gulleys. The sand roads are fairly good during the winter, but when the summer comes it takes strong teams to traverse them. In many places the old roads are abandoned and new ones blazed out through the woods, and in some instances fences have been let down and fields driven through so bad were the public highways. The good roads subject is one in which every man should feel a pride and take an active interest. But do they? There are few people who have not at some time heard others speak boastfully of beating their street or road duty. But our people will sooner or later awaken to the value of good roads and the COURIER believes that the day is not far distant when at least the main travelled thoroughfares of the county will be improved by some hardening process—either stone or the clay and gravel process, or both. This is a matter in which the town and the country should both feel deeply concerned. In going about the county town people and many country people travel largely in buggies. Good roads to them mean speed and a consequent saving of time. To the farmer going to market good roads mean a saving of teams and time, and teams and time are money. And the town or market that can only be reached over difficult roads will surely see its trade diminish and go to points that are easier of access on account of better thoroughfares. This is a matter that all warts will have to grapple with and, as pointed out in the outset, is one of prime importance to Crockett and of absorbing interest to Houston county.

**FOR LESS COTTON.**

Cotton has gone down, down, until the bottomest depths of despair for the market's recovery have been almost reached. The COURIER's diagnosis of the situation is this: The trouble all begins with the high price brought by last year's crop, buoyed up by which, the whole cotton growing region north and east of us tried to see how much of the staple it could produce. It was rich in its anticipation of an increased crop and big prices for another year. It had had no boll weevil backset and was intoxicated, figuratively, on the fruits of the previous crop as a wealth producer. It believed, largely because it was pleasant to believe so, that cotton would never again be a cheap commodity, and that if a small crop produced so much wealth a larger crop would bring untold riches. So figuring, the acreage was enormously increased. In North and North-west Texas, Indian Territory, Oklahoma and Arkansas, with pre-

than ever before in the history of the country. In Louisiana and Mississippi, the latter the center of the cotton growing region, enough labor could not be found for the cultivation of the lands desired to be put in cotton. Boll weevil-ridden Texas was scoured for labor and much of it secured and taken to those states, all of which was to be used in the production of cotton. Alabama, Georgia, South Carolina and Florida increased their acreage in proportion. We see the result. We not only see it, but we feel it, and feel it keenly. A twelve million bale crop is the estimate based on the government's bureau report, which is taken from the reports of the ginner themselves. Cotton was worth 6 1/2 cents in Crockett Tuesday. The remedy for the south in general is to plant less cotton and build more factories. The remedy for Houston county in particular is to raise more hogs, horses and mules, graded cattle, sugar cane, corn and other feed, peaches, potatoes, tomatoes, etc., and less cotton.

**FOR A PURE FOOD LAW.**

Texas needs a pure food law to protect the manufacturers and consumers of pure sugar cane syrup. There is an article of syrup, manufactured in the northern states from a combination of glucose and something else, that can and is being sold on the market in Crockett at 20 and 25 cents a gallon. This stuff when eaten is injurious to the health and its sale should be regulated by law. This can be done through a pure food law, such as some of the other states have. It is claimed by persons in position to know that stuff manufactured in northern states is shipped into Texas and sold when its sale is prohibited by law in the states where it is manufactured. This does not apply alone to syrup, but to soda, baking powders, etc. The idea with the states which manufacture these goods is one of business strictly. They want to protect the people from impure food—the people within their own bounds—but they do not want the factories, which are money-makers, torn down. So they prohibit the sale of the stuff within the state and let its manufacture proceed. In other words, they have it to sell, but not to use. Pure sugar cane syrup can not enter into competition with this stuff in the markets without financial loss to the manufacturer and should not be forced to do so. Pure syrup now sells in Crockett at 35, 40 and 50 cents a gallon, according to grade, and is considered cheap at that. The impure kind sells for 20 and 25 cents. It does not compare at all favorably with pure syrup, but still it is being and will be bought by that class who are continually looking for something cheap regardless of quality. The COURIER believes in protection when it is the people who are to be protected.

A pure food law would not only protect the health of the people, but it would stimulate the syrup making industry in the state and encourage the growing of more sugar cane. The quality of syrup made in Houston county this season is as fine as can be made anywhere. It can not enter into competition with the cheaply manufactured article without financial loss to the cane grower. In thus protecting the health of the people, a growing industry is aided and stimulated.

The COURIER is giving away an \$85 Chicago Cottage organ absolutely free.

**An \$85.00 Organ**

The Chicago Cottage,  
MANUFACTURED BY THE CABLE CO.

TO BE

**GIVEN AWAY**

**By the Courier.**

In order to induce cash subscriptions the COURIER makes the following offer: To every new subscriber paying one year in advance we will give free a chance at an \$85 organ. To all old subscribers paying up all back dues and a full year in advance we will give a chance at the organ. We make this offer for no other reasons than to stimulate cash subscriptions and to increase our subscription lists. The COURIER is \$1.00 a year. Two years in advance entitles the payer to two chances—one chance for every year paid in advance. You can send the paper to a friend for a year and get an additional chance. The organ is a beauty and is now on exhibition at the COURIER office. It was bought of Mr. Jas. DeDaines of Crockett who guarantees it to be as represented. Our plan of deciding the result will be by drawing, unless some better plan should present itself in the meantime. The date of the drawing is to yet be determined, but all holders of chances will be given due notice in advance.

We are simply making some one of our subscribers, and those who join the army of readers that now peruse the columns of the COURIER weekly, a present of this handsome and useful household article.

**If This Does Not Interest You Tell Your Neighbor About It—He Perhaps Wants an Organ.**

**The Courier, Crockett.**

**DELEGATES NAMED.**

**Good Roads Convention at Palestine, Texas, December 13th and 14th, 1904.**

- From Crockett—A. H. Wooten, G. S. King, C. C. Warren, B. B. Warfield, A. W. Ellis, H. M. Barbee, John Goolsby, E. B. Hale, Joe Adams, G. M. Waller, W. A. Norris, H. J. Arledge, John LeGory, Nat Wetzel, J. W. Hail, D. A. Nunn, Jr., M. Bromberg, C. A. Turner, C. M. Newton.
- Grapeland—Lee Satterwhite, George Darsey, Frank Farris, J. J. Brooks, D. A. Martin, E. E. Davis, J. E. Hollingsworth.
- Percilla—W. F. Murchison, S.

**Holiday Excursions**

VIA

**I. & G. N.**

TO THE

**OLD STATES**

To All Points in Arkansas, Iowa, Kansas, Minnesota, Missouri, Nebraska; also to Denver, Colorado Springs, Pueblo, Trinidad and Intermediate Points; to Points in Illinois, and to points in

**OLD MEXICO**

Tickets on Sale Dec. 20, 21, 22 and 26. Limit 30 Days for Return. One Fare (Plus \$2.00) the Round Trip. Convention Rates to All Points in Texas and Louisiana Dec. 23, 24, 25, 26, 31, and January 1, 1905. Tickets to January 4 for Return. Special Through Cars and Quick Service. For Complete Information as to Routes, Rates, Through Cars, Etc., See Agent, or write

D. J. PRICE,  
Gen'l Passenger and Ticket Agent,  
Palestine, Texas.

**Live To Eat**

When in need of any kind of fresh meats, such as Beef, Pork, Mutton, Sausage, Pickled Tripe, Pickled Hog Feet, etc., call to see us.

**We Have Moved**

One door south, and are now located in the Mathews old saloon building, next door to barber shop.

**Spence & McCelvey**

Successors to W. H. STEFF

- S. Elliott, Tom Cook, J. R. Sewell, J. C. Daniels.
- Augusta—T. S. Cook, J. C. Kennedy, Dr. Hall Wilson, J. M. Sheridan, H. P. Allmond.
- Weches—W. H. Rosser, H. W. Womack, Jim Alexander, Jim Lovell.
- Belott—J. J. Taylor, Will Lockey, E. E. Barlow, Ed Lockey, Jim Shields.
- Coltharp—L. A. Daniel, M. C. Dupuy, A. J. McLemore.
- Lovelady—W. B. Cockran,

- Cidle Wainer, J. O. Monday, Ab Thomasson, George Thompson.
  - Porter Springs—A. B. Mulligan, T. C. Cook, Mike McCarty.
  - Day—Jim Beasley, Gail Clinton, Duck Kyle, G. W. Mobley.
- I would like for as many of the above delegates to attend as can. Any person that desires to go would be glad to have you with us; it is free for all. Let's have a good representation from Houston county. Respectfully,  
FORBES SEWMAN,  
County Judge.