















J. E. POOLE, Editor and Proprietor.

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Saturday, March 25 1899.

LOCAL DOTS.

Mr. W. T. Hudson went to his ranch in the I. T. this week. Our public school will close on next Tuesday, 28th, after a term of seven months. Mr. R. H. McKee is in Dallas this week laying in a new stock of goods for his store. Try W. W. Fields & Bro. on molasses, they can fill your order for the cheapest or the best—prices right. Notice F. G. Alexander & Co's. ad this week. They have a whole lot to tell you about a great big lot of goods. You can save money by going to W. W. Fields & Bro. for your groceries—they are making very low prices just now. Mrs. Major Smith and children returned on Thursday from a visit to relatives and friends at Throckmorton. Mr. R. B. Fields got home last Saturday from his livestock trading expedition into the eastern part of this state and Louisiana. Carry all hides and furs you have for sale to W. W. Fields & Bro., they will pay you the highest market price for them. Mr. Onstead of the Lasso was in Haskell this week. We learned from him that the Lasso probably will be moved to Haskell soon. I have bought out the grocery business of C. M. Courtwright and will continue it with full stock at all times. Come and see how low they can be sold. T. G. CARNEY. Mr. A. P. McLemore makes a fresh talk in his ad this week. Read it—in fact always read all the ads or you may miss something good. S. L. Robertson wants your trade in Dry Goods of all kinds. Groceries received fresh every week. Everything sold at lowest possible prices. For pure big German millet, genuine Amber sorghum and Kaffir corn seeds go to W. W. Fields & Bro's. Emmett Robertson and a few other local Irishmen celebrated St. Patrick's natal day by wearing bits of shamrock on the lapels of their coats. Mrs. S. L. Robertson and Miss Minnie Lindsey drove out Friday to spend two or three days with the family of Mr. B. F. Lanier, in the northeast part of the county. We are informed that Mr. Hardgraves, the photographer who was here some time last summer, died at Avo on Thursday of meningitis. For a nice selection of queensware, glassware, lamps and lamp chimneys W. W. Fields & Bro. can't be beaten,—they also have some nice churns and a good assortment of stoneware generally. Mr. T. S. Giddings has opened a shoe shop in the room adjoining Mr. McKee's store. He has a good outfit for his business and does his work under guaranty. See ad in another column. Cast your eye around for Mr. W. T. Jones' bow to the public upon his entry into the grocery business. Read it and then step in and see his nice, fresh stock of groceries. Mr. Abel Jones, who is in charge will sell 'em to you right. The Free Press is very glad to be able to state that the two cases of meningitis which developed here last week—those of Mr. J. S. Rike and Mrs. F. C. Wilfong—and caused so much concern among our people, are convalescing and considered entirely out of danger. New dry goods just opened at S. L. Robertson's and they are pretty. You should call and see them. A big line of Prints, Lawns, Percals, Duck, Pique, Madras, White Goods, Embroidery, Laces, Hosiery, &c. Ladies especially are invited to come and select while the stock is fresh. Mr. J. M. Baldwin left on Friday for Fannin county where he expects to establish his future home. During his residence of several years here he made many friends whose good wishes go with him. He was county judge of our county for the term of '97-'98 and fell only a little short of reelection at the last election.

Cash is very desirable and it knocks old credit blind at S. L. Robertson's. Mrs. McCollum's elocution pupils will give the "Old Maids' Union" in the Carney hotel Monday evening April 3. This entertainment is new and is full of fun. Admission 25 cents. Parsonage benefit. I have a sewing room at Mrs. Pierson's and am prepared to do all kinds of sewing. Would be glad to have the ladies' patronage. Miss Hoge. A letter received by Messrs Alexander, McConnell and Poole from President Jones of the Wichita Valley railway company, is not very encouraging to those who desired and hoped for an early extension of that road to Haskell, though it holds out the idea of such an extension at some time in the future. Good Whiskey is both doctor and tonic. Better looking than many doctors, better testing than all medicines. For general family use, nothing equals whiskey and HAZLEWOOD Whiskey is pre-eminently the family whiskey. Sold by Keister & Hazlewood, Haskell, Texas. Mr. W. C. Jones got home Tuesday night from Aransas Pass, where he spent the entire winter, on account of his previous asthmatic trouble in this climate. At Aransas he enjoyed fine health and came home well and active, to the great pleasure of his family and friends here. Spanish Language. The Spanish is one of the most beautiful languages in the world, if not the most beautiful. The American people will have greater need to acquire a knowledge of it than ever before. Do you want to study it? Well, no one can acquire a practical knowledge of it who undertakes it alone. NATIVE accent and pronunciation must be learned from the native tongue, or one who has learned it from the native tongue. With a sufficient number, and satisfactory arrangement of hours, &c. I will teach a class. If you are interested apply at once to M. L. MOODY. Teachers Institute. Programme for Teachers' Institute to be held at Haskell, April 7th and 8th, 1899, beginning Friday at 7:30 p. m. 1. Music. 2. Invocation by Rev. Rogers. 3. Music. Subjects for Discussion: 1. The Practical Value of Psychology, by Prof. W. W. Hentz. 2. The Importance of Object Lessons, by Prof. E. C. Couch. 3. The Importance of History and How it Should be Taught, by Prof. A. O. Johnstone. 4. How to Make Our Public Schools More Effective, by Prof. D. J. Brookerson. 5. Diacritical Marks, their Use and Abuse, by Miss Eliza Robinson. 6. How Much Civil Government Should be Taught in Our Public Schools, and How Taught, by Prof. T. G. Mark and J. B. Jones. All the above mentioned subjects will be open for general discussion and all the teachers are requested to be present and take part in discussing them. H. R. JONES, President. TO THE PUBLIC. I wish to say to my friends and the public generally that having bought Mr. Carney's interest in the business of Carney & McKee and now being the sole proprietor of same, I shall be pleased to have a continuation of the patronage of the firm's old customers and I also invite all others to give me a chance at their business. I shall try to merit the confidence and patronage of the public by doing a straightforward, honest, legitimate business at the lowest margin of profit that will allow me a fair living. Trusting you will give me a call and a trial, I am Yours truly, R. H. McKee. Notice of Disolution of Partnership. It is hereby mutually agreed by and between T. G. Carney and R. H. McKee, composing the firm of Carney & McKee, that the partnership heretofore existing between them is this day dissolved, T. G. Carney having sold all his interest in said partnership business to R. H. McKee, who assumes all indebtedness due by said firm and becomes the owner of all notes and accounts due to said firm, and will continue the business at the same place in the name of R. H. McKee. Haskell Texas, March 1st, 1899. T. G. CARNEY, R. H. McKee.

School Trustees. A law enacted by the legislature now in session changes the time for the election of district school trustees from June to the first Saturday in April, which is the first day of April this year. The county judge has given notice of such election to be held on next Saturday and every voter in each school district should on that day use his vote and influence for the election of men who are most competent for the position and who are known to feel and exhibit a real interest in the upbuilding of the schools. The whole set three trustees are to be elected at this election. Have You Ever Thought of It? We mean, has it ever occurred to you that if we were to contribute and spend a small fraction of the money we would have to pay to get a railroad to come to Haskell in putting the advantages of our county before the outside world and in giving some special advantages or little "bonuses" to a few of the most desirable class of people to come and locate on our peerless prairies, that there would be more real profit in it to the majority of contributors than would come to them from the railroad extension? If a few experienced, up-to-date stockfarmers were induced to come and embark in that business with the right sort of stock, their inevitable success would start a tide that would soon fill our county and bring it to the highest degree of prosperity of which it is capable. We would like to see this proposition taken up and seriously discussed by our citizens. From Mesquite School. The farmers of Mesquite are very industrious. They rise with the singing larks, to get about their business. Corn planting is the leading occupation of the day. Sunday a. m. Bro. Lovelady preached for us and, we are sorry to say that he left us no appointment. Bro. Wickson also preached a very interesting discourse in the afternoon. His text was "He that endureth to the end; the same shall be saved." Mr. W. T. Montgomery visited our school Monday morning and gave us a very interesting lecture on the importance of education, with which every one was well pleased. The patrons are deeply interested in the school. They have manifested that they are by lending a helping hand; they have shown they are willing to make sacrifices, in order to promote the true interest of their children and the school. The students too are taking quite an interest in the work. They seem to realize the full value of the golden moments. Let us hope that there is a bright future awaiting Mesquite. A STUDENT. The Oregon O. K. The battleship Oregon which made a record breakin grin of 13,000 miles from California to Santiago, Cuba, and there wielded one of the biggest clubs in the bunch when Cervera's fleet was smashed into old junk, is now at Manila, having retraced her voyage around South America and gone six or seven thousand miles farther, and is, according to Admiral Dewey's cablegram below, ready for a fight, a race or a frolic: Manila, March 18.—To Secretary of the Navy, Washington: The Oregon and the Iris arrived to-day. The Oregon is in fit condition for any duty. Dewey. The commissioners appointed by the governor to select a location for the establishment of an epileptic branch of the State lunatic asylum, visited Abilene last week and, according to a press item sent out from that place, will report in favor of locating there. It is stated that the site selected embraces a 640 acre tract of land, just south of the fair grounds and within three miles of town, and within one mile of the water works on Lytle creek, from which the institution is to be furnished free water. The bill creating the epileptic branch of the asylum carries an appropriation of \$50,000 for erection of buildings, etc., but required that the town bidding for the location and receiving it should donate the site selected. This, Abilene will easily do, in the case of the 640 acres of land.

McLEMORE'S is the place to buy your Drugs, Paints, Oils, Etc. Have just received a new Tank of CARBON And can give you any quantity at close prices; also all kinds of MACHINE OILS.

NEW SHOE SHOP T. S. Giddings, Proprietor. Boots and Shoes made to order and fit guaranteed. Only best of material will be used in my work. Repairing promptly done. I shall depend on the quality of my work for my recommendation and, solicit your patronage on this basis.

THAT SCHOOL TAX. As yet we have heard but little discussion of the proposition to raise the district school tax in the town district from 15 cents to 20 cents on the \$100, which is to be decided at the election to be held on April 15th. Such mention of it as we have heard has been favorable to the increase, and we have no reason to think otherwise than that it will carry by a very large majority. There is not a single valid excuse that we can think of for more than a very few to oppose it. Large property owners in the district who have no children to be educated in the public school might with a fair show of reason oppose it. But we think it doubtful if even these will oppose it when they take into consideration the small amount of the increase—only 50 cents for each \$1000 worth of property—and the great advantage it is to any town to maintain a good, well equipped school. It is no longer a question, but is generally conceded, that there is no more potent factor in the upbuilding of a town or city than for it to possess educational facilities commensurate or even in advance of present requirements. In our case the increase will barely give us such a school as we should have, say a term of nine months after the first year. We believe it is a settled fact that considerable repairs are necessary to make our school building surely safe for occupancy in case of a storm, to say nothing of improvements in the way of adding conveniences, or for look's sake. In this connection we must remember that the state appropriation is reduced by the repeal of the law under which one per cent of the permanent fund was each year transferred to the available fund and, if we have to take money out of our reduced fund to make the repairs we will be reduced to a five and one-half or six month's term this year. If the five cents increase is voted on it will give us something over \$500 more and the repairs, etc. can be made and we can probably have a term one month longer than the present one, while for the future it will give us a regular nine months term. "Yield not to temptation, for yielding is sin," is, we presume, the tune the governor gently hums as he sits in his office and work his little veto machine on those railroad consolidation bills. In the great number of these measures before the legislature a large part of the state is involved; there are but few representative or senatorial districts untouched by one or more of the roads and, in many instances big talk and big promises of extensions, etc. have been made. This may account in some degree for the large majorities by which several of the consolidation bills have been passed. Senator Blank says to senators So and So, "I want you to vote for a certain consolidation bill; if it passes the road will extend to—place and the credit I will get for working the bill through will make me solid with the constituents down there." Senators So and So reply, "Good idea, we'll do it if you'll vote for such and such consolidation bills in which we are similarly or otherwise interested." Senators, All together—"Agreed." And they have yielded to temptation.

Spring Is Here —and so is our large stock of Spring Goods. To be up with the times you need some of the up-to-date novelties. Money Saved is Money Made.—If you wish to make some money examine our new line of wash goods.

Staple Dry Goods.—A full stock of Bats, Domestic, Sheetting, Shirting, Chevlots, Denims, Licks and Coverts. Dress Goods.—Foreign and Domestic. Latest in Wash Dress Goods, Pique, Percal, Duck, Dimities, Organdies, in all shades. Lawns, Nansooks, Embroideries, Dotted Swisses &c. Hosiery.—A full and complete line of the very vest brands and dyes for men, women and children. Parasols.—We have a large stock from 50 cents up to extra values. Gloves.—No costume is complete without a pair of perfect fitting kid gloves of good quality. Such gloves can be had here at moderate prices. The drive we are making in prices in this line causes competitors to wonder where they were obtained. Handkerchiefs.—A dainty handkerchief tucked in belt or purse or jacket pocket peeping shyly forth and giving just a hint of its quality and beauty pleases feminine fancy. We supply the handkerchiefs and offer a stock so comprehensive in style and quality that every taste or pocket book can be suited. Millinery.—Paris and London styles at our popular prices, is a combination which should please every Haskell woman. We invite each and every one to examine this stock as it is up-to-date in every particular, and the best part is, you can possess your choice at a moderate price. Furnishings.—Whatever Haskell men or women need in furnishings can be found here and it will please in style and price. Our large trade in furnishings has come to us because we have deserved it by catering to the needs of our customers more satisfactorily than have others. We would be glad to have you look at the new things in this line. Shoes.—We have the most complete stock of men's, women's, and children's shoes and slippers of regular goods ever shown in the west, and of the best goods. Also we have 700 pairs of ladies shoes and slippers bought as a job lot. We can save you from 25 to 50 per cent on them.

Lowest prices guaranteed in all lines. Respectfully, F. G. ALEXANDER & CO.

Next Spring Klondike Shortest Route! The Denver Road (Fort Worth & Denver City Railway.) ELI A. HIRSHFIELD, A. G. P. A. D. B. KEELER, G. F. A. FORT WORTH, TEXAS.

B. T. Babbitt's PURE POTASH IS EQUAL TO 3 of any Other BRAND. 3 Cans of any Other Brands, 2 Cans of B. T. Babbitt's PURE POTASH SAVES THE CONSUMER, INSIST ON HAVING B. T. BABBITT'S Pure Potash or Lye. 25 cts. 20 cts. 5 cts.