

HASKELL CITY FREE PRESS.

Vol. 3.

Haskell, Haskell County, Texas, Saturday May 5, 1888.

No. 17.

Special Announcement.

We Offer for the NEXT 60 DAYS Our Entire Stock of NEW SPRING GOODS at Special Low Price. We Have the Largest Stock in all Lines, that we have ever Offered Before, and at Prices that Defies Competition.

We Would be Pleased to have the Citizens of Haskell County, Call and Examine Our Stock.

YOURS TRULY,

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TEXAS.

Some Idea of Its Limitless Resources, Possibilities and Certainties.

Texas is the greatest state in our Union and, but few persons seem to form a correct conception of its immense extent. From east to west the state measures 825 miles, and from north to south 970 miles. Its superficial area is much greater in extent than that of the entire German Empire, and equals that of France and Spain taken together. Texas contains 262,290 square miles, or 167,865,000 acres, while Missouri embraces only 68,735 square miles, or 43,999,400 acres. In 1880 the aggregate population of Texas was but 1,592,730, while Missouri had 2,168,380 inhabitants. At that ratio the latter state supports thirty-one inhabitants on each square mile of her area, while Texas has only six inhabitants on each square mile of her vast territory. Massachusetts, a densely settled community, contains 225 inhabitants on every square mile, and Great Britain even 260 on the same area. Were Texas, therefore, as thickly settled as the latter country, it would support nearly 70,000,000 people. The superficiality of the state of Texas are greater than that of New York, Pennsylvania, Ohio, Virginia, Maryland, Delaware and the six New England states combined. According to the census 1880 its population then consisted of 1,477,133 natives of the United States, and 114,616 born in other countries.

Within its wide-spreading domain, the state of Texas, possesses all known varieties of soil, clay, limestone, sandy, gravelly and alluvial lands are all represented in the various geological formations of the state. Each of these varieties of soil produces an abundance of timber or of the native grasses. The alluvial lands of the wide bottoms which skirt the water courses are covered with a dense growth of timber, especially in the eastern portion of the state, and these river bottoms have been endowed by nature with a fertility which is truly astounding. But, on that account, they are at times somewhat inclined to generate malaria in some places. Giant forest trees of nearly every variety common to North America, among them in great frequency the valuable pecan tree, dot the ground in immense multitudes, and many species of wild grapevines, flowering and climbing shrubs and Spanish moss hang down in festoons from the tall tops of the giants of the forest and cover the ground of the woods with an almost impenetrable undergrowth, enveloping the rich black alluvial in never-ending shade.

The boundless prairies of the west and southwest are coated with many species of wild, native grasses, forming valuable pasture grounds, on which numberless herds of cattle, horses and sheep graze all the year round, the temperature being so mild during the short winters that the grass remains almost constantly green, and feeding by hand is scarcely ever required.

On account of its fertile and variegated nature of its lands Texas offers an inviting and profitable field for every branch of agricultural production. Cotton, sugar, corn, tobacco and various semi-tropical fruits, such as figs and even oranges grow successfully and in such vast abundance in the southern tier of counties, the so-called

cotton belt; while wheat, oats, barley and all the northern cereals, together with corn succeed admirably without artificial irrigation in the northeastern and eastern parts of the state. Pears, peaches, apples, apricots, plums, almonds, and nearly all European varieties of fruit thrive surprisingly well—especially when judiciously irrigated—in the extensive Rio Grande and Pecos valleys, and in many other sections of the state, although their culture is still in its infancy, so to speak.

Grape culture although but in its incipient stage, is in the future, and within but a short time, destined to rival that of California. Its introduction into Texas is due to the Spanish monks, who came from Old Mexico and established the first mission and settlement by white men in the territory now comprising the State of Texas, at El Paso, in the year 1582. The good fathers imported grapevines from Old Spain, and since that and until the present day, grape culture has been carried on in a small way in various places along the Rio Grande. The juices pressed from these grapes, which are still called Mission grapes, is when properly made and treated, fully equal to an excellent quality of sherry wine. As all the varieties of the European wine grape succeed in all respects as well in that portion of Texas as they do in California in that pleasant and profitable branch of agriculture.

In many portions of Texas the temperature of winter is extremely mild, even tempered and salubrious; while the climate in summer on account of the mountain and prairie breeze, and the high elevation above the sea-level, is not unpleasantly hot. In certain sections the weather is during a few winter months subject to sudden changes, although not more so than in Missouri, and everywhere in the state the farmer can work in the open air nearly all the year round. Occasionally the so-called "northers" offer a variety to the usual temperature. They are in fact a continuation of our own "blizzards," which originate somewhere in the regions of the North Pole and sometimes make themselves felt through portions of Texas and across the gulf as far as Havana.

The rainfall is amply sufficient in the southern, eastern and central parts of the state, the tables of the Signal Bureau at Washington giving an average annual rainfall of from twenty to thirty-six inches in numerous sections, while in places it is even greater. Yet there are certain localities, like the so-called "Staked Plains" the Llano Estacado, which are subject to droughts. Artesian wells will in all probability hereafter supply the want of water, at least for the use of the animals which graze on these plains.—St. Louis Merica.

The Chicago Alarm Suspends.

Chicago, April 27.—Tomorrow the issue of the Alarm, the paper of which A. R. Parsons, the anarchist, was editor will be suspended indefinitely. Difficulties arising somewhat of a financial character it is supposed have caused the stoppage. It is a queer coincidence that the day is exactly the second anniversary of the last issue of the paper by Parsons himself, the number just preceding the Haymarket bomb throwing, containing the call "to arms."

THE DRILL ENDANGERED.

The Legislature Evinces a Squishiness About Receiving the New Capitol From the Architects.

Corked-up Eloquence Let Loose in the House on Page's Tax Bill—Constitutional Term of District Judges.

PRIVATE CORPORATION BILL.

AUSTIN, Tex., April 25.—The private corporation bill which has passed both houses is the same measure offered by Senator Terrell in the Nineteenth and again in Twentieth Legislatures. He was undoubtedly abused by the Alliance people at that time, but thinks his vindication has come now that they have adopted his measure and by the pressure of their influence secured its passage. Mr. Terrell says his views on the matter were all right, but he was a year or two in advance of the times.

THE HOUSE TAX BILL.

Mr. Page's tax bill was before the House for discussion and amendment to-day, and a large amount of corked-up eloquence was turned loose. The bill as it comes from the committee fixes the ad valorem state tax at 10 cents on real estate and 18 cents on personal property.

William C. Johnson offered a substitute fixing the state tax at 10 cents and the school tax at 15 cents for the present year and leaving both taxes as they now are for subsequent years. The measure provoked warm discussion, which was engaged in by a large number of members. It was argued by the one side that this Legislature is here for the purpose of reducing taxation and should not shirk the responsibility, and on the other that the next Legislature will be better able to tell what is a proper rate of taxation than the present one is. The proposition to increase the school tax stirred up strong opposition, Bell of Cooke, being especially decided in opposing it. The bill and substitute, were laid over till to-morrow.

AMENDING THE RENDITION LAW.

Another bill creating a good deal of discussion was the one introduced by Page, amending the law relating to the rendition of property for taxation. The object is the taxing of money, bonds and other property, which, it is said, is habitually removed from the state about the first of January, and not brought back till the tax lists are completed. Action on this bill was also postponed.

NO CAPITOL DEDICATION.

It begins to look as though there might be no capitol dedication here in the beautiful month of May, as has been heretofore anticipated. The Legislature has evinced a squishiness about receiving the building from the architects, and a number of plans have been proposed, shuffling the responsibility from one department to another, until it now seems that it may not be accepted at all. The building is not yet completed, but the contractors agree that its acceptance so far as finished shall not work a forfeiture of the provisions of the contract requiring them to complete it, and that they will enter into additional bonds to complete according to the original specifications all parts not now finished. They are not willing to allow the building to be opened to the public till received. The building if dedicated at all will be with closed doors. The question seems further from solution than ever since the introduction by Cone Johnson

this morning of a bill declaring that the building shall not be received till entirely completed in accordance with the specifications. The whole trouble, seems to come from a desire on the part of certain members of the Legislature to escape responsibility. They are frightened by the cries of certain disgruntled individuals whose views have been slighted by the contractors or commissioners and are willing, not to say anxious to hide behind any technicality which presents itself. The Governor is understood to have said that if the Legislature will throw the responsibility on him he will readily accept it and settle the question to the best of his ability.

JOHNSON'S CAPITOL BILL.

Mr. Johnson's capitol bill will be favorably reported in the morning. Mr. Johnson will offer an amendment providing that so much of the building as is finished may be received by the state and used while the other part is being completed.

MAJORITY AND MINORITY REPORTS.

The Senate judiciary committee No. 1 will make a majority report in favor of Mr. Woods' bill requiring counties to return to the general school fund all money apportioned to them and not used during the year for which it was so appropriated. A minority will report in favor of Gregg's bill allowing any district to save up the money for a year or two till enough accumulates to pay for a school of a certain length or to build a school house.

CAPITAL CULLINGS.

A. R. Morris, collector of Travis county, to-day settled with the state, showing total collections for 1887 of \$64,183.

The Comptroller to-day deposited over \$14,000 in the Treasury to the account of the general revenue and school fund.

The state board of education appointed J. L. Pritchett of San Marcos as a teacher in the Sam Houston Normal Institute; also, they fixed the age of admission for young ladies at seventeen.

Attorney-General Hogg has given a lengthy opinion concerning the constitutional term of district judges, holding that said term is four years and that Judge Rainey in the Fourth district is entitled to hold his office until the next general election, two years from next November.

At the convention held in Columbia county, New York, the following resolution was passed: Resolved, that the delegates chosen at this convention to attend the state convention be and they are hereby instructed and directed to use their influence at said state convention to secure the selection of a delegate to the national convention who will be uncompromisingly in favor of the renomination of Grover Cleveland as President of the United States.

A Pitched Battle.

Albuquerque, N. M., April 25.—The deputy sheriff of Socorro county, who have been on the trail of Joe Atkins and Frank Porter for the last two days, came up with them near San Jose, this county, yesterday afternoon, when a regular pitched battle ensued in which Porter was killed, Atkins captured. The prisoner and the body of the dead man were brought to Albuquerque this morning. These men have been known for a long time past as desperate characters.

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J. G. LOWDON, Cashier.

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CAPITAL SURPLUS and UNDIVIDED PROFIT
\$145,000.

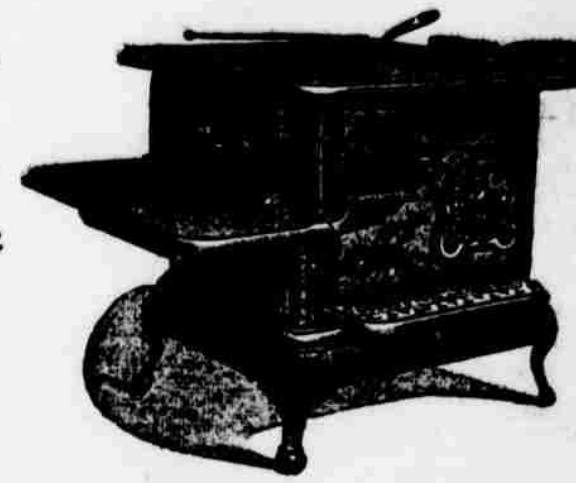
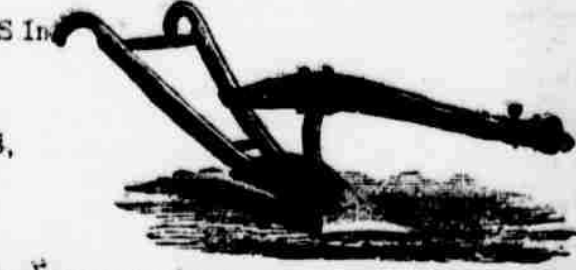
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BRICK HOUSE.

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TEXAS.

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Attorney at Law, and

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HASKELL

Professional Cards.

Dr J. H. McGees

Physician, Surgeon and Obstetrician Haskell Texas Office at Johnsons Drug store, offers his professional services to citizens of Haskell and surrounding country.

P. C. Woodruff, M. D.

Having permanently located at Haskell, Texas, respectfully tenders his professional services to the citizens of the town and surrounding country. Office North side square. 17 U.

H. K. PLUMMER, M. D.

A Physician of twelve years experience having located at the city of Haskell, offers his professional services to the citizens of the city, and to those of the country generally. Office at his residence, west side of public square. 429.

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THROCKMORTON, TEXAS.
Will Practice in Throckmorton, Haskell and adjoining Counties.

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Will Practice in all the Courts of Haskell and adjoining counties.
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Notary Public.
HASKELL CITY, TEXAS.

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HASKELL TEXAS.
Abstractor, Notary Public
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ROYAL HARMONICAS,
The finest mouth Harmonicas possible to make.

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Importer and Wholesale Dealer in all kinds of Harmonicas and General MUSICAL MERCHANDISE,
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Haskell City Free Press.
A WEEKLY NEWSPAPER
PUBLISHED EVERY SATURDAY,
AT HASKELL, TEXAS.
Official paper of Haskell County.
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as second class Mail matter.
Hag. A. McEachin. OSCAR MARTIN
MCEACHIN & MARTIN
Publishers and Proprietors.
HASKELL, TEXAS.
SUBSCRIPTION, \$1.50 per year

Lost and Found.
There's something precious I have lost,
But when I can not tell,
And on account of which I'm sure
I do not feel so well.
My dearest friend had fled from me,
Who was my heart's delight,
And all could see as well as I,
It was my appetite.
But bless the name of pork and beans
And taters and such like—
My stomach like the handkerchief
To put them out sight.
Two pounds of steak will sort 'em 'out
To make things somewhat easy,
But still I crave the scraps to save,
Though ever so fat and greasy.
S. J. P.

HASKELL county is the best county in the northwest.
It takes money to run a newspaper. Promises are N. G.
STRIP yourself to build up the town and county.
You can announce just as cheap as you can the day before the election.

We learn from the Anson Western that Rev. J. B. Boen is studying law.
INVEST in Haskell county dirt, if you want to reap the benefit of a good thing.
LET us all go to work in the immigration cause Haskell needs more people.

THE FREE PRESS wants to see good men-elected in Haskell county this year.
Gov. ROSS will be his own successor, and he has made Texas an excellent governor.

EVERY man here is interested in the upbuilding of every interest and enterprise of town and county.
STATE ticket has been put in the field by the Prohibitionist. It is headed by Marion Martin of Navarro county for Governor.

J. B. CRANFILL, the greatest crack in the state will doubtless receive the prohibition nomination for Vice-President. An empty honor truly.

A RAILROAD is one of our most crying necessities, and we hope to soon hear the snort of the iron horse as he travels northward from Haskell.

SUBSCRIBE for a copy of the FREE PRESS and send it to your relatives back at the old home. Let them see what you are doing in the best county in Texas.

WE want no howling demagogues or political tricksters in county politics this year. Such a thing as a "ring" must not exist in Haskell county.

As the FREE PRESS' patronage increases just that much will the paper be improved in the future. We are already giving you a better paper than its patronage will justify.

THE FREE PRESS is receiving a great deal of praise from its esteemed contemporaries. All of which is duly appreciated. We are trying hard to give Haskell a good paper.

THERE will be lots of candidates in Haskell county this year, and the indications already denote that there is music in the air. Whoop 'em up boys and let's make it interesting.

THE grain crop of this county will be no small thing this year, for the acreage is larger than ever before. There will also be a heavy cotton crop, all of which will bring considerable money into the county.

TAKING them as a whole, there are no better people on the face of the earth than those of Haskell they are peaceful, enterprising, law abiding and kind in their relations with each other and with the manager who comes within our gates.

SOME of the business men of Haskell said they wanted to see how much the FREE PRESS would be improved. We trust they have seen it, without the aid of glasses, and if they will stand to the paper, it will stand to them the town and the county.

THERE is plenty of room in Haskell county for the man with the hoe. There are thousands of acres of the best land in the state right here that never felt the point of a plow. Come now while land is cheap and you can get you a home upon favorable terms.

THE Seymour Cressett last week issued 10,000 copies a special edition devoted to a general write up of its town and county. The Cressett is one of the most enterprising and plucky journals in northwest Texas, and in the matter of the special edition, it got them with its usual success. Bro. McLain is a live newspaper man.

SELL they are fussing and quarreling over prohibition. The Anstis say they intend to put a heart of oak plank in the state platform, and the Pros. say that such a thing shall not be done. In the mean time the Republicans are actively at work, hoping to catch the Democratic party napping. Prohibition is a very dead issue, and the Democrats can not afford to lose votes by reviving it.

THIS county has had an abundance of rain. The drouth is a thing of the past, and our farmers will gather large crops this year. Grass is finer than it has been for years, and stock are in excellent condition. Our people are getting on top of hard times, and there is a feeling of confidence as to the future. Haskell has certainly a glorious future just a little bit ahead, and if we only remain faithful, we shall come into an enjoyment of the good things saved up and prepared for us.

ILLINOIS carries off the chief justice prize. The appointment of Judge Fuller will prove a great surprise to the country, as very few, if any, had the least idea that lightning would strike in that direction. The name is by no means familiar to the San Antonio bar, but Fuller may, after all, be as well known as Waite was at the time of his appointment as chief justice. As Cleveland made the appointment, the presumption is that it is a good one.

Earthquake Shocks in California.
BROCK, Cal., April 29.—The heaviest earthquake shocks ever experienced occurred here at 8:45 last night, lasting 75 seconds. The vibrations were from east to west. A plastered building cracked.

SROCTOS, Cal., April 29.—Four distinct shocks of earthquake were felt here at 8:40 last night.

Fire at Anson.
LAST Wednesday morning at about one o'clock, the general merchandise store of Bryant & Bro., of Anson with its contents was entirely consumed by fire. It is not known how the fire originated, but it is presumed to have been caused by mice gnawing matches.

The stock was fully insured, but the building will be a total loss.
The Western office, McEachin & Andrews' job office and the building adjoining, belonging to McEachin & Davis, had a very narrow escape, but was saved by much hard labor. Keep your matches in a safe place.

Legislature Notes.

BILL appropriating \$18,500 for repairs on Blind Asylum has passed.

BILL extending the time for the redemption of land sold to the state for taxes, passed.

BILL appropriating \$29,300 for the Prairie View Normal School passed.

BILL repealing the law authorizing the payment of taxes to the Comptroller's office by non-residents passed.

BILL for a geological survey of the state passed.

More than half the time allotted to the Special Session has passed, and not much has been done in the way of Legislation.
"Why are our pulpits empty?" screams a religious exchange. That's easy. Because all the truly good young men are embarking in the newspaper business.—Grass Leader.

HASKELL COUNTY.
Her Advantages, Resources and Future Prospects.

In almost every neighborhood of the older states and the thickly settled portions of our own state there are many of its citizens who are contemplating a removal or a change of residence for many reasons. Some to restore lost health, some to make their first beginning in the world, others to repair financial losses, others seeking safe and profitable investments of surplus capital. There are many others who have comfortable homes and are well contented, but who have children, whom they would like to provide with lands suitable for homes, and assist to commence business in life, but can not do so with their present surroundings, and must seek cheaper lands and better opportunities in other and newer localities.

To such we would say, you are just the people we want. Come and see us, and you will find a broad field of occupation and investment to choose from, with chances greatly in your favor. In coming to Haskell do not imagine we are a people wild and woolly and indigorous to these "western wilds," that we are loaded with dynamite and shooting irons, that our conversations are collections of cuss words and Mulhatton mixtures, but rather that we are a people reared among the same surroundings, that we have received the benefit of the same advantages, that we have availed ourselves of the same educational privileges, that we have had the same christian instructions you yourselves have had. Be enlightened by past experience. Fortunes have been made by the development of new countries, and fortunes are yet to be made in our new and equally as good county.

We have a county endowed by nature with all the conditions of soil prairie and valley adapting it to the production of all the grains, grasses, fruits and vegetables of the temperate zone. We have a climate which is a happy medium between the extreme cold and extreme heat, a climate which will preserve the strong and robust and strengthen the sickly and weak. We have a county well adapted to stock raising of all kinds. We have a county where no malarial sickness ever comes.

We have a county of the best lands in Northwest Texas. We have an abundance of mesquite, elm and hackberry timber for firewood and fencing. We have the most substantial inland business town in the northwest. We have the greatest abundance of the purest water. We have a class of citizens as honest and industrious, as hospitable and good natured, as law abiding, patriotic and religious as can be found anywhere in the United States. We have plenty of room, and invite you and all who contemplate a change, to come, all who want good and cheap lands. We have them, and want you for neighbors and friends.

This county is situated in the northwestern part of the state, and is about 1800 feet above the level of the sea; is in form of a square, embracing an area of 900 square miles, or 576,000 acres, of which 4-5 is arable or agricultural.

WATER.
The water supply comes from the Double Mountain Fork of the Brazos river, in the western portion of the county; California creek entering the county from the south, then running an easterly direction across the S. E. portion of the county; Paint creek heading near the west line of the county, and running east; Miller and Lake creeks heading near the center of the county, and running in a northeasterly course into Baylor county. The waters of these streams are pure and free from mineral or alkali.

Aside from the surface water furnished by these streams, we have the greatest abundance of the purest water all over our county, which can be obtained at a depth of from 15 to 40 feet. Free from mineral of any kind, it is nearly pure freestone water. Good lands and good water in abundance, form the basis and foundation for a prosperous farming country, second to none anywhere in the state.

The soil is an alluvial loam of great depth and fertility, varying in color from a red to a dark chocolate, and by reason of its porosity and friable nature, when thoroughly plowed, readily drinks in the rainfall, and in dry seasons absorbs moisture from the atmosphere; and for the like reasons the soil readily drains itself of the surplus water, thereby preventing stagnation of the water and the baking of the soil, as well as the germination of miasma. It is these peculiar qualities of the soil that enables vegetation to withstand much drouth and wait for the coming of the rain. Crops will survive three or four weeks drouth without very serious injury—it is a six or eight weeks drouth in mid summer that blasts and ruins crops. Except mequite grubs and stumps, which are easily extracted, there are no obstructions to plows, and the land being level or generally rolling, and easily worked, the use of labor saving implements at once becomes pleasant and profitable.

INDIAN CORN, wheat, oats, barley, rye, durum corn, millet, sorghum, castor beans, field peas, peanuts, pumpkins, and all the squash family, turnips and cotton are grown successfully and profitably. Also sweet potatoes do well, and Irish potatoes as well as anywhere in the South. Garden vegetables grow to perfection, and mellons luxuriate in Haskell county soil, growing to fine size of superb quality. Besides the native grasses that grow on the prairies, sustaining large numbers of cattle, horses and sheep throughout the year, Johnson and Colorado grasses grow to great perfection and the hay made from these grasses form a valuable adjunct to the winter pasture, in keeping stock over winter.

YIELD AND PRICES OF FARM PRODUCTS.
The average yield of Indian corn per acre is about 30 bushels, and the price varies from 50 cents to \$1.25 per bushel; the wheat yield for the year '87—a dry year—ranged from 3 to 30 bushels—averaging between 16 and 18 bushels per acre, and sold in the home market for 90 cents to \$1.00 per bushel; oats yield 50 to 75 bushels per acre, and usually sell at 35 to 75 cents per bushel; cotton yields a half to three quarters of a bale per acre, but owing to the great distance to market its cultivation is not engaged in to a great extent. Other crops make good yields and command corresponding prices. Home made pork is usually worth 6 to 8 cents per pound; fresh beef 4 to 6 cents; home made butter, sweet and delicious, usually sells at 25 cents per pound; chickens 15 to 25 cents each, and eggs 10 to 25 cents per dozen.

SHIPPING POINT.
As yet Haskell has no railroad, and our people do their principal shipping to and from Abilene, a town 60 miles south, in Taylor county, on the Texas and Pacific Railroad. There is also some shipping done to Albany, a town 45 miles southeast, on the Texas Central Railroad, but not so much as to Abilene, because of rougher wagon roads.

RAILROAD PROSPECTS.
At present there is no prospect of a railroad building into Haskell in the immediate future. We expect to get an extension of the Texas Central Railroad from Albany to Haskell, but that road is in the hands of the U. S. Court, and not likely to be extended until it is discharged from the control of said court. We also think that the Fort Worth Western Railroad will build from Fort Worth westward through Haskell, and it is believed that the St. Louis and San Francisco Railroad will build southward through the Panhandle and through Haskell, and it is possible that the Chicago and Rock Island Railroad may yet build through Haskell.

PRICE OF LANDS.
Rich river valley unimproved agricultural land more than 5 miles from town, sells at \$3 to \$4 per acre. Rich unimproved agricultural prairie uplands, more than 5 miles from town, sells at \$2 to \$3 per acre, and within 5 miles from town, \$3 to \$15 per acre. Pasture land unimproved sells at \$1 to \$2 per acre. The usual terms of sale is one-third cash, and the balance in equal payments in one and two years, with ten per cent. interest.

PUBLIC SCHOOLS.
Our school fund is perhaps the best of any county in the northwest.

In addition to the amount received from the state, about \$5.00 per capita, our Commissioners Court have wisely executed a lease for 10 years of our 4 leagues of school land, situated in the Panhandle, the revenue from which added to the amount received from the state gives us a fund amply sufficient to run the several schools of the county ten months in the year. This fund can also be drawn upon to build school houses in any organized school community of the county. The fund of Haskell Co. is all sufficient to run the school without voting a special school tax provided by law, thus relieving our people of the additional tax, to maintain an efficient school system.

In Haskell there is a flourishing school with more than 100 scholars enrolled, besides several flourishing schools in different parts of the county. Our school fund is ample for all who may come. It is a source of pride to our citizens and an evidence to all of the enlightened views of our people and wise management of our county government.

MAIL FACILITIES.
There is only one post office in Haskell county, that at the town of Haskell. It has a daily mail, over the mail line from Abilene via Anson; which line also brings express freight, and proves very satisfactory to our people.

RELIGIOUS ORGANIZATIONS.
The religious and moral status of the people of Haskell county will compare favorably with that of any people. The Methodist, Baptist, Christians, Old School and Cumberland Presbyterians each have organized churches in the town of Haskell, and have preaching on three Sundays in each month; also preaching at other points in the county. We have a good Union Sunday School, and Band of Hope, and weekly prayer meetings.

HASKELL.
The town of Haskell is the county site of, and is situated one and one-half miles south of the center of Haskell county, on a beautiful table land, and is four years old and has a population of 600 to 700. Has a good well water as can be found anywhere, which is secured at a depth of 18 to 22 feet. Also has two never failing springs of pure water in the edge of town. Haskell has four drygoods and grocery stores, which carry full lines, and supply the people with groceries, at prices as low as can be had in railroad towns, with 50 cents per hundred pounds for freight added, and drygoods as cheap as anywhere. Also has two drug stores; one hardware store; one notion store; one hotel, and one restaurant, both first class; one blacksmith shop; one cabinet and wood shop; one exchange bank, one barber shop; two silver smith shops; one saddlery shop; one meat market; two livery stables; four doctors; eight lawyers; three land agents; one first class county newspaper and job office, and only one saloon; all doing a very good business. The town of Haskell with her natural advantages, of location, climate, good water and fertility of soil of the surrounding country, is destined in the near future to be the queen city of Northwest Texas, and railroad connection for Haskell is all that is needed to accomplish this.

A WOMAN GAMBLER.
"There's a new racket on the road," says a commercial traveler; "it's a female drummer. I met her the other day. Of course she travels for a Chicago House, and sells goods like a January thaw. She's been out long enough to as get independent as a 'hog on ice.' She sits in an ordinary railway car and engages up sleeping car births in her expense, just like the rest of us. She walks to the hotel and charges up back fare, just as we do. She beats the landlord down to a dollar and a half a day and charges the house two and a half in the regular old style. And that isn't all. She has half the clerks in the Northwest mashed on her, and the way the little rascal knocks 'em down on her bills is a caution. She has a regular trick of staying over Sunday where one of her admirers runs the hotel and then walks off Monday morning forgetting to pay her bill. What does she sell? That's the tuiest part of it. You'd think she sold millinery, or jewelry, or something of that kind, wouldn't you? Well, she don't; she sells young men's shirts, and she sells young men who run that kind of stores buy from her as if they hadn't seen a commercial traveler in six months."

Hughes, Red & Co.,
Abilene, Texas.
Handles the **Charter Oak Stoves,**
WITH GAUZE WIRE DOORS.

Wherever these Stoves are tried, it is found that no others can EQUAL THEM. It is no longer a matter of test BUT AN **INDISPUTABLE FACT**

THAT THE **Charter Oak Stoves**

With Gauze Wire Doors roasts meat and bakes bread **MORE DELICIOUSLY** than any other stove made.

They take the **PREMIUM** wherever exhibited. When you need a **GOOD COOK STOVE**, call and **Examine our STOCK.**

HUGHES, RED & CO.

N. PORTER,

Pine Street, Abilene, Texas.
Manufacturer and Dealer in Cheyenne Saddles, Harness, Bridles, and everything you need in the Saddle Line.

My Leading Prices on Cheyenne Saddles are \$25, \$30 and \$35.

Keep Your Money at Home, and buy Cheyenne Saddles Cheaper in Abilene than in Cheyenne.

Hag. A. McEachin. MAX R. ANDREWS.

MCEACHIN & ANDREWS,
JOB PRINTERS and STATIONERS

ANSON.....TEXAS.
The Largest Job Printing Establishment West of Fort Worth. Three Fast Job Presses, and the Finest Office in Texas. Orders left with Oscar Martin will have prompt attention.

HICKEL & HILLGER
DEALER IN

Fine Boots and Shoes.

We carry the finest stock in the city, and sell cheaper than you can buy elsewhere in Western Texas. Repairing a specialty. We respectfully solicit a share of Haskell County's trade. Next door to Post Office.

ABILENE, TEXAS.

TO HORSE BREEDERS.
STEPHEN F. AUSTIN, the young THOROUGHBRED CLYDES
DALE STALLION, will serve a reasonable number of Mares this season at the J. P. COLE stable in ANSON. Terms \$10, and is sure.
G. T. Little.
ANSON, TEXAS.

JOHN R. JONES & CO.
Manufacturers of and dealers in
Lumber, Shingles, Sash, Doors and Blinds,
ABILENE, TEXAS.

Terms \$1.00 per year (payable in advance)
CASH in advance.

Advertising rates made known on application.

Our rates for announcing candidates are as follows:

FOR DISTRICT OFFICES, \$12 50
COUNTY OFFICES, \$7.50
PRECINCT OFFICES, \$5.00

Cash in advance.

For name on ticket same as above, if candidate does not announce.

Saturday, May 5, 1888.

ANNOUNCEMENTS.

COUNTY JUDGE.

We are authorized to announce W. R. Standefer as a candidate for the office of County Judge, next November election.

LOCAL DOTS.

Stone jars at Dodson's.

Mr. C. E. Joel is in the city.

Born—To the wife of Mr. Spenter a ten pound boy.

Stone churns with lids at Dodson's.

The weather for the past few days has been that of the most delightful spring.

Mr. J. D. Crawford has returned from a business trip to Palo Pinto.

Ladies' and children's hats, cheaper than the cheapest, at DeLong & Johnson Bros'.

Mrs. G. W. Cook was in the city yesterday.

Gentlemen, come around and look at the summer clothing at DeLong & Johnson Bros'.

Mrs. C. D. Long has returned from Albany.

Send all your orders to E. L. Ritch the Jeweler, Abilene, he will treat you right.

The convention Thursday was not as well attended as we would like to see it.

E. L. Ritch, the Jeweler, Abilene, has the largest repair trade of any house west of Dallas.

Miss Etta Shook is in Haskell visiting her brother, Mr. M. S. Shook.

Young men's and boys' suits at a very low price. We must sell them at once. Come around and get the lowest figures ever known. DeLong & Johnson Bros.

Full line of farm and ranch supplies at Dodson's.

The horse men of Haskell county are busy gathering and branding horses.

If you want a good sewing machine call at the Free Press office. We will exchange for horse or cattle.

Miss Mollie Springer, of Albany, is visiting friends and relatives in this place.

Sheep shears, the Keen Cutter at Dodson's.

I pay all return charges on jewelry and watches sent me by mail for repairs. E. L. Ritch, Abilene, Texas.

Dr. A. B. King and family of Throckmorton was in this city Thursday.

Sulphur, Strychnine and Dog poison at Bass Bros. & Co's, Abilene, Texas. 'Tis the place to buy.

Miss Chess Mason of Tennessee is visiting her brother, Mr. Geo. Mason.

Kill your Prairie Dogs! you can find the different poisons very low at Bass Bros. & Co's, Abilene.

Masters William, Sam and John Ward, sons of Wm. Ward on Paint Creek were in the city yesterday.

See Bass Bros. & Co's ad in this issue. They do the leading business in the drug line in the Abilene country, and all would do well to call on them.

Dr. Plummer and Woodruff say Mr. Spencer on the Doublemountain has corn knee high.

Bridles, bridle reins, bridle bits, stirrups, stirrup leathers, tie traps, girths, quilts, spurs, trace chains, harness, hame strings, back bands, duck collars, plow lines, buggy whips, horse brushes and curry-combs at Dodson's.

Mr. Seaton has 15 acres of rye as high as a man's shoulder. There are many other farmers who have just as fine.

BASS BROTHERS & CO. Headquarters

For Drugs, Patent Medicines, Oils, Window Glass. Wall Paper, Stationery, School Books, and Druggist sundries, with a select line of HOLIDAY GOODS
LARGEST STOCK, Greatest Variety, Lowest Prices, SOLICIT THE TRADE OF ALL.

West FINE STREET, ABILENE, TEXAS.

No. 100.
All watches that were repaired and warranted by Ritch & Clark, Abilene, will be kept in order by me. Next door to the post office.
E. L. RITCH,
The Jeweler.

It's no use talking, Mr. Dodson has as nice an assortment of goods as any store in the west. His goods are fresh and selected with care.

F. P. Morgan Esq. was elected as a delegate and H. R. Jones was elected alternate to the State convention at Fort Worth.

W. H. Parsons came to Haskell where his business paid but little (owing to the few inhabitants.) He now gets a large trade from Haskell and adjoining counties. Thanking them for the past patronage, we hope for a continuance of same, all work strictly guaranteed.

Messrs John and H. G. McConnell and W. E. Johnson, went hunting the other day and killed 40 plovers. The birds were very fat and tender.

The jewelry firm of Ritch & Clark, Abilene, has been dissolved. Mr. Ritch who has had exclusive charge of the repairing department can now be found next door east of the post office; where he will be pleased to meet his old friends and as many new ones as may want first class watch and jewelry repairing and engraving done, cheap as any house in Texas. Call on him while in Abilene, we guarantee he will treat you right.

The weather this week has been very fine for the wool growers, and shearing has been pushed in order to get their wool sacked before it rains.

The races last Saturday were well attended. The brown mare, owned by McAndless, was the favorite, but she was hardly swift enough for the little gray, owned Mr. Hammons, who won by 18 feet. The second race, between Scott, owned by Barrett, and Klawa, owned by Wm. Edge, was very close and exciting. The horses got a good start and were whipped through from the beginning. Klawa led until within 25 yards of the end, when Scott's rider succeeded in darting him out ahead by two feet.

I am now in receipt of a full line of Spring and Summer goods, and will mention a few of the many articles fresh from the market and now for sale:
Ladies' & Misses' Hats, solid colored and fancy hose, collars and cuffs, corsets
including Dr. Strong's Elastic corset, the best in use, elastic in sides, top and bottom.
Ladies' Berlin gloves, kid, silk, mits, robes, white, Lotus lawns, Palmotee lawns, White lawns, Black lawns, Dotted net veiling all colors, Hamburg net 27 inches wide, Brown & bleach peperal shirting, 10-4 wide, Brown & bleach domestics all kinds and qualities.
Prices to suit customers.
Waverly seersucker, Sham Rock checks, Cotton plaids, Ginghams and best grade, Standard prints.
Don't fail to call round and see the old man and the boy.
Respectfully,
B. H. DODSON

Persuant to the call of the Chairman of the Democratic Executive Committee, of the Democrats of Haskell county met in convention at the court house, May 3rd, 1888, for the purpose of selecting a delegate to represent Haskell county in the Democratic convention which meets at Ft. Worth, May 22, 1888, for the purpose of nominating presidential electors, and to select delegates to represent the State of Texas in the national convention, to be held at St. Louis, Mo., June 5th, 1888.

I. H. Carmichael, Chairman Dem. Ex. Com., called the meeting to order and stated the object of the meeting.

Upon motion, I. H. Carmichael was elected permanent chairman and H. R. Jones permanent secretary by acclamation.

Upon motion, F. P. Morgan was elected delegate, and upon motion, H. E. Jones was elected alternate. There being no other business before the convention, upon motion, the meeting adjourned sine die.

H. R. JONES, Secretary.

The Picnic.

Nearly all the young people of Haskell, accompanied by Mr and Mrs. R. C. Lomax and Mrs. Tandy, went out on Red creek the other day to a beautiful native grove of elms, where they spread table clothes and displayed one of the best picnic dinners that ever graced a picnic table.

The day was pleasant and the drive to the grounds only sharpened the appetites of those who attended. Everybody ate a hearty meal, and when the table was cleared away, the young men with their best girls sought the shade of some beautiful elm, and there rehearsed the old story of their fathers, while the Haskell string band discoursed some choice selections, and a noisy croquet party kept the air resonant with their merry chattering. The beautiful young ladies, for which Haskell is noted, with their crisp lips encircled with bright countenances, with the snowy Tam O'Shanter's that protected their faces from the genial rays of the sun, sent many a cupidian dart through the gallant hearts of their susceptible beaux (the writer was seriously if not fatally wounded). The party was well supplied with rifles, and game was plentiful. There were five coons, one rattle snake, one moccasin and many rabbits and flowers taken. The day passed off very pleasantly to all, and it will be treasured in the memory of those who attend, for many years to come.

Our Austin Correspondent.

AUSTIN, TEX., April 28 1888.

For the benefit of some of your patrons I shall ask you to give space in your valuable columns to the following brief remarks concerning the proceedings of the first called session of the 20th Legislature: Up to date the greater portion of the time has been taken up by the introduction of bills and committee work on them.

Enough bills have been introduced to appropriate the surplus of this state and all adjoining states, but a majority of these bills will never see the light of a second reading.

A bill reducing the ad valorem rate of taxation for this year to 10c on the \$100.00 and to 18c for subsequent years has passed the House and will very likely go through the senate in like manner.

South West Texas will get an appropriation to build a Lunatic Asylum.

It would seem that the lunatics are getting too numerous to mention, but we must not forget the size of this great state.

A bill has passed the Senate authorizing a geological survey of the state—Keep your eye on Stone-wall!

A bill has passed the Senate appropriating \$100,000.00 for the Orphan Asylum to be located at Corsicana.

Some County Commissioners and County Treasurers have been charged with fraud in the distribution of the \$100,000.00 appropriated by the regular session of the 20th Legislature for the relief of suffering humanity, and Mr. Jones of Menola (in the House), introduced a resolution to authorize an investigation, but the committee very wisely sat down upon it.

Bills making appropriations for the enlargement of all the state's

THE STAR HOTEL, M. G. RHODES AND SON Proprietors.

Anson, Texas.

Good Comfortable Rooms and Clean Beds. The Tables Furnished with the best the Market Affords. Nice and Convenient Sample Rooms for COMMERCIAL Travellers.

Terms very Reasonable.

The Humphrey House Is still open for the accommodation OF THE PUBLIC. We Promise to keep our tables supplied with the BEST THE MARKET AFFORDS AND TO GIVE OUR PERSONAL ATTENTION TO THE COMFORT OF OUR GUESTS. PATRONAGE SOLICITED. R. P. Humphrey. ANSON, TEXAS.

MARK TWAIN.

GENTLEMEN—Why is it that I can't convince you that I DO USE as good, in fact, the SAME, TREES in my good SADDLES as you get in the Cheyenne Saddles. Some will persist in sending off for \$15, and throw away from \$10 to \$15 on a Saddle. I DO CLAIM that I CAN, and to those who trade with me, sell both SADDLES and HARNESS cheaper than they can possibly send off for them.

N. PORTER, ABILENE, TEXAS.

The crop of acorns in Georgia is the finest ever seen by the oldest inhabitant. Hogs are getting very fat in the woods.

In southern Arizona business of all kinds is increasing in volume, and the mining and cattle industries are assuming large proportions.

The most ancient agricultural society in the United States was organized in South Carolina. It was founded in 1784, and is therefore 103 years old.

At Cleveland, O., is a Fraebel society composed of young ladies, which holds monthly meetings in the interest of kindergarten work and supports a free kindergarten.

A question is being discussed in Mobile, Ala., as to whether it is the city's duty to pay the city attorney for defending a councilman of one of the wards in a suit of trespass.

John Cheever, who died at St. George, Me., the other day, left neither will nor heirs, and as a result the state treasury will be \$20,000 better off, he having left that amount of money.

The male escort has gone out of fashion among the women of New York. At the theater the other night were seen nine parties composed of young women protected by a matron.

An editor of a San Diego (Cal.) paper gives the printer of a rival about the following: "We came from the heretic stock of Daniel Boone, and in our veins there flows no drop of craven blood."

Seamless wood floor piping and tubing, recently invented by a wood pulp manufacturer at Mechanicsville, N. Y., is said to be impervious to acids and moisture, and practically indestructible.

The faculty of the university of Pennsylvania has forbidden smoking in the students' rooms, the hallways, etc., and now the students are agitating for a smoking-room on the university premises.

Says The Anniston (Ala.) Not Blast: A recently-brought suit for damages was compromised yesterday for \$11,000. The attorney in the case are happy in the possession of one-half of the amount as their fee.

Quite a feat was performed by an English steam tug recently. It towed the broken-down steamer Westphalia from the Grand Canary islands to Hamburg, a distance of eighteen hundred miles in eleven days.

A pneumatic clock company is a new thing in Paris, which takes charge of a number of clocks, regulating them by air power. When the pipes get out of order, which happens about twice a week, a large part of Paris is timeless.

The Saturday half-holiday is but little respected in the city of New York. Banks and commercial exchanges are the only places that pay any attention to it, and they are now preparing a petition to the legislature asking for its repeal.

A letter was sent through the Charlotte-towns (V. E. L.) postoffice recently which bore the following unique postscript: "Deliver it to no one else, ask the party calling to lift his hat you will see a large bald spot on the side of his head."

A pious crank at San Jose, Cal., is asking all the religious and temperance organizations in the country to "be present, to be present, to be present" at the funeral of a man who died of a heart attack.

Three old men died at Bradford, Vt., last week. They were: R. M. Kent, aged 84; Edwin Fuller, 80; and Josiah Gerry, 90. For many years the latter person pursued the business of a drover, and was well known all over the northern New England States.

Americans who want to England this year to enjoy pleasant weather instead of a great many months. While in America the autumn has been unusually pleasant. England for the past two months has had an extraordinary amount of cutting east wind, and a hard winter has already set in.

"It would be well," remarks the Jackson (Ga.) Argus, "for the Baptist church authorities to repair the bell of that church so as to prevent its being made an asylum for pigeons. Religious worship is often disturbed by this ridiculous nuisance, and we hope it will be properly looked after."

The days of the small shopkeeper, who only buys at his own store in small quantities without an amount of market, are considered numbered in London, owing to the continued development of co-operation. An enormous amount of solid capital is being used in antagonism to retail competitors.

Cyrus De Forest, a farmer at North Wilton, Conn., has a novel birthday party and gift annually. A swarm of bees at this time enter the house in a very mysterious manner, and take possession of the space between the ceiling and floor. Last year he reaped a harvest of seventy-five pounds of honey and this year seventy-nine. The bees are killed each year, but a new swarm returns the next season.

In Pike county, Ohio, there are four hundred dress wells on which a \$10 royalty was said to be due. Wednesday morning the town of Waverly was filled with farmers who had come to settle with the agents, when they were shown the copy of a decision rendered recently by Judge Hatchfield, declaring the patent invalid. The farmers then went home considerably richer in pocket than they expected to be.

DELMONICO RESTAURANT

S. W. corner of Public Square, HASKELL, TEXAS.

The public is solicited to stop at this house when in Haskell. You can get a nice comfortable bed for 25cts; also a meal of the best the market affords for same price.

J. W. Becknell, Proprietor.

Cheap Livery Stable.

Teams and Vehicles for Hire at Low Rates. We can Afford to Keep Teams Cheaper than any Body, as We Have A Farm in Connection with Stable, and Raise all Kinds of Grains and Hays

Draper & Baldwin Haskell City Texas.

D. R. GASS,

DEALER IN Dry-goods, Groceries and General Merchandise, (Cents Furnishing Goods:

West Side Public Square, Haskell Texas.

W. H. KELSO,

ABILENE, TEXAS. Wholesale and Retail Dealer in GRAIN, HAY, BRAN and FEED of all Kinds.

Cash paid for Hides, Furs and Pelts.

\$90,000 TO LOAN.

Within the next SIXTY DAYS on Farm and Ranch property in sums of \$250 and upwards on better terms than have ever before been offered in Western Texas.

Call at our office or write to us. Abilene Investment Company

Abilene Texas. March 8th 1888.

Cash Tells! Don't Forget it!

And it is by judicious investment that you can make it tell. Sending out our prices last month made such ready sales that we will try it again. Head this, come see us, and we will save you money.

Choice California White Rose eating potatoes at \$1.35 per bushel. Good Green Rio Coffee 5 pounds for \$1.00. Oolong Tea, cheapest in the West, at 40 cents per pound.

Blackeye Peas, 20 lbs for \$1.00. Hughes' Jelly, 5 lb. buckets, good, 50cts. Hughes' Preserves, 5 lb. buckets, good, 50cts. Baltimore Peaches, 3 lb. cans, good, 5-6c. Lily Tomatoes, 3 lb. cans, 2nd quality 10c. Standard Tomatoes, 3 lb cans, best, 10cts. Standard Corn, 2 lb cans, very best, 10cts. Favorite Baking Powders, 3 lb. cans, 10cts. Favorite Baking Powders, 5 lb. cans, 10cts. Smoking Tobacco, good granulated, per pound 5cts. Laundry Soaps, broken lots, 25-24 lb. bars for \$1.00. Lye Soaps, home-made, 30 lbs, for \$1.00. Black Leaf Sheep Dip, 5 gallon kegs, \$5.00.

These are special drives and are sent to you and everybody else for the sole purpose of swelling our cash sales, and will be sold at these figures for

SPOT CASH ONLY. Roberts & Mackintosh, PINE STREET, ABILENE, TEXAS.

NOTICE.

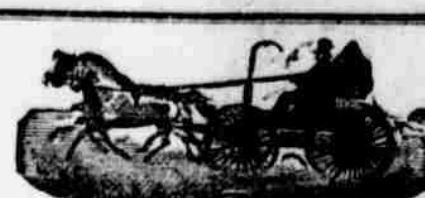
The Mail back leaves Haskell at 7 a. m. every morning and arrives at Anson at M. leaves Anson at 1 p. m. and arrives at Haskell at 7 p. m.

CARRYING EXPRESS and making connection with the back on the Abilene and Anson line

Any person or persons wishing to pass over this line can save 50 on the MAIL BACK CHEAPER than they can hire a buggy and make the trip from Haskell to Abilene in one day.

Mail Hack arrives at Abilene at 6 p. m. making connection with the East bound train. Leaves Abilene immediately after the arrival of the West bound train in the morning.

I mean what I say. Try the old way. Respectfully, Oscar Cooper.



HASKELL CITY FREE PRESS.
 Official paper of Haskell County
PUBLISHED EVERY SATURDAY.
 HEG A. McEACHIN, OSCAR MARTIN
McEachin & Martin,
 EDITORS & PROPRIETORS.
 Terms \$1.00 per year in advance.
 Advertising rates made known on application.

TARRANT COUNTY DEMOCRACY.

Chairman Carter's Call for a County Convention Criticized.
 Bedford, Tex. April 23 1888.
 To the Editor of the Ft. Worth Gazette.

It would seem that there is a good number of Democrats in this state who think the Democratic household has become too numerous. For in stance, what could be the effect of the so-called "heart-of-oak" plank in the next platform but to drive a number of Democrats out of the party? If an adverse majority of 100,000 can't settle the prohibition question, do gentlemen suppose a liquor plank in the Democratic platform, which cannot hope to get in except by a narrow margin at best, could do so? Of course not. But the plain truth is that the George Clark crowd think that they can afford to drive out some 30,000, or 40,000 Democrats if by so doing they can shelve certain strong Democratic leaders who stand in the way of a division of the spoils exclusively among the said Clark outfit. Men who are thus willing to jeopardize the supremacy of the Democracy in Texas merely in the hope of selfish gain, may call themselves "heart of oak" or any other fancy name they may choose, but they are not good Democrats. But while this effort to get the state Democracy to adopt a proscriptive policy is going boldly on along as indicated, it is charged that Fort Worth politicians are diligently at work secretly to get the Democracy of Tarrant county to adopt a proscriptive policy along a different line.

The program, as it is talked among the country people, is that a convention is to be called to nominate county officers. That is all right. Certainly, if there ever is a time when a convention is needed it is when the party is demoralized and disorganized. If the county election two years ago and the recent Fort Worth municipal mean anything at all, they show the local Democracy to be wellnigh in a state of complete demoralization, if indeed, it is not actually ruptured. Certainly then, the demand for a convention could not well be more obvious or more urgent.

But, then it is further said that all who go into the primaries are to be required to take a solemn and formal pledge to vote the ticket nominated by the convention. Chairman Carter's call for a county convention to elect delegates to the state convention is construed to mean this.

Upon that call it may be remarked that the chairman of the committee had no authority to call the convention. At the time and place, and determine who should have a voice in it, all of his own motion. I assert that Chairman Carter had no more right to do so except upon order of the committee than I had to do it. The language of the call is: "All Democrats who will support Democratic nominees, are invited to participate." This is, as I said, construed to mean that all will be required to take a formal pledge to support the Democratic ticket before being permitted to participate. It is intended it is clearly wrong. It is said that the object is to shut out those who voted the dark lantern ticket two years ago. If this is the object, it is also clearly wrong.

I lay down this proposition, broad and fundamental; that the carefully constituted authorities of the Democratic party should endeavor always to so conduct the administration of party affairs as to secure the co-operation of all who believe in democratic principles. No method should be adopted for anything which would cause a single man who believes in Democratic principles to refuse to go into the Democratic organization. This is the grand, leading, primary object of the party organization and of all party organizations, and I maintain that the call for every Democratic convention should be as broad as

Democracy, and should invite everybody who believes in Democratic principles to participate in the primaries. It is true, and the truth is recognized by all men, that by taking part in the primaries the voter places himself under a general obligation to abide by the result, and support the ticket put forward. But it is not Democratic usage to require Democrats to take any such formal pledge before permitting them to take any part in the primaries, as it is alleged is to be done under Chairman Carter's call. We hear nothing of it in the call for the national convention. We hear nothing of it in the call for either of the state conventions. It has no business in the call for the county convention. I know it may be urged in Chairman Carter's defense that the convention which he has called is of comparatively little importance. But I know also the force of a precedent of this kind. And when the committee meets to decide upon a "plan," the convention "plan" will be adopted, and when it comes to ask how the call shall read, of course it will follow the one that has already done service.

I know also that there are many men in the country who voted the Dark Lantern ticket in 1886 who believe in Democratic principles and would be glad to return to the Democratic organization and participate in the primaries, assuming the obligation which the act would imply, but who absolutely will not touch a formal pledge. I believe that these men should be encouraged to come back and resume their places in the Democratic organization instead of being driven away by a proscriptive policy. So far as I am concerned I never voted anything but a straight Democratic ticket in my life and never expect to vote any other; so I am not concerned about myself, but I would like to see the party in this county adopt a broad, wise, liberal, conservative plan for the coming campaign and make an earnest effort to induce the return of our wandering brethren. I have written this letter to the Gazette to call attention to what is being said in the country, in the hope that the complaints made may prove groundless and that mistakes of the nature indicated may be avoided. K. H. W.

BLOODY ROW ACROSS THE BORDER.

A Fatal Shooting Affray in a New Laredo Saloon—A Woman in the Case.

LAREDO TEX., April 25.—This city was thrown into a fever of excitement and its inhabitants horrified Sunday afternoon about 5:30 o'clock by a bloody double tragedy which occurred in Charles Dall's large saloon in New Laredo, Mexico, in which Captain Rumm Bargeulles of the Mexican National Railway, was wounded, and now lies at the point of death. Quite a party of young men, clerks from the Railway offices and the Custom House, and some army officers, had dined together at 3 o'clock, and this wine mounting to their heads, made them somewhat reckless, and Bargeulles and Torres became involved in a quarrel and came to blows, also throwing glasses at each other. They were separated and were finally induced to become friends again, after which the whole party adjourned to the ten-pin-alley in the saloon a bove mentioned. After arriving there another row came up between two other members of the party, who by that time were pretty well intoxicated. Torres went to his room and procured a pistol, it is said, for one of his friends to use in case the quarrel resulted in a fight. During this time Bargeulles had been taken twice to his room by friends and he had become boisterous and unmanageable. He returned both times. The last time it seems he procured the pistol and returned with it. Torres had offered his pistol to his friend, but the latter had already procured a weapon, so Torres kept the pistol in his possession. Bargeulles entered the north door of the saloon alone and saw Torres standing in the west door about ten feet away. It is reported that they both drew their guns at the same time and began firing. Bargeulles was shot twice, the first ball taking effect in the abdomen, the second striking him in the face. Either would have proved fatal, and he died in a few minutes. Torres only received one wound in the right

groin, the ball passing clear through. Both the combatants walked off the ground, but Bargeulles fell about thirty feet from the spot. Torres may live, although the chances are against him. He is a Mason, and the sympathies and influences of the order are for him. Bargeulles, the deceased, was a brother of the custom collector of the port of New Laredo, and has always been held in high esteem by the citizens of New Laredo. He was accorded a military burial in accordance with his rank in the army, which was largely attended. He was a single man. There are those who hint that a woman over whom there was rivalry between the young men was the actual cause of the trouble, but no proof of the assertion is offered. Bargeulles at the time of his death was not on duty as an officer, being off from Monterey where his company was stationed on a furlough. The affair is a sad one and is much deplored by all, but is only another proof of what wine and women will do for the hot blooded sons of this tropical climate.

Dallas Flooded.

Dallas, Tex., April 28.—The heaviest flood for many years was the result of last night's rain. About 7 o'clock the rain commenced to pour down in torrents, and it continued for four hours with no intermission whatever, and with occasional intermissions for still three hours later. Within half an hour after the rain commenced the streets of Dallas were full of water, and it ran over the sidewalks and filled the basements. Thousands of dollars' worth of goods were damaged in this way. The fire department was called out, or at least the hook and ladder part of it, to save life. Jackson street, east of Ervay, became a maelstrom, and the colored population dwelling there thought for awhile that the end of all things was at hand. But fortunately all in the vicinity were rescued from danger and no lives were lost. Several families dwelling in tents near Logan branch in east Dallas came near being swallowed up in the flood, but assistance came in time to save their lives, while their beds and household articles were strewn down the course of the branch. One of the women thus rescued gave birth to a child this morning, kind people in the vicinity ministered to her wants and had her removed to the city hospital. Nearly five hundred yards of the Texas and Pacific track near the fair grounds was washed out, and the trestle over White Rock creek is said to be damaged.

The Gulf, Colorado and Santa Fe had two bridges washed away on Cedar creek and one on White Rock creek. About two hundred yards of the Texas Trunk Railroad track, two miles from town, is washed out. Houses and goods in every part of town were greatly damaged, and losses in this respect will foot up a large sum. Many parts of the city are still under water and much distress prevails among the poorer classes, the Trinity at this hour becoming a torrent of water and is out of its banks. The always-to-be-heard-from "oldest inhabitant" has expressed his opinion of the flood, and he pronounces it to be the heaviest in the history of the city.

Death of J. D. Thompson at Denver.

Denver, Col., April 25.—The investigation made by Coroner Rogers regarding the death by morphine of J. D. Thompson of Paris, Tex., develops the fact that the dead man's name was Joe Hall. A letter has been found purporting to be from his brother and signed Steve Hall. In this letter there are certain sentences which seem to show that Thompson had stolen some cattle in Texas and his brother warns him to lie low. The coroner's inquiries all tended to explode the theory that Thompson was murdered and it is now thought he committed suicide in order to avoid the disgrace of being arrested and punished for the crime of which he was supposed to be guilty.

A Fatal Misstep.

A Freight Conductor Falls from the Top of his Train. TRINIDAD COL., April 25.—Conductor Sullivan of the Denver, Texas and Gulf left here on a freight train this afternoon for a regular run up the Long's Canon branch of the road. When the train was a short distance from the city he attempted to walk on top of the cars to the front end of the train. When about half way over he made a misstep and fell to the ground, striking on his head, crushing his skull badly. He died in a few minutes. His remains were brought here and will be shipped east.

Women's and Men's Rights.

Merchant Traveler. A man whose good nature was sowed early in youth has prepared the following tabulated statement:

WOMAN'S RIGHTS.
 A seat in the horse car under all circumstances.
 Sealskin Sacques.
 The privilege of lying in bed until the fire is built.
 To demand of a shopkeeper that any article she wants to be sold at half its original cost.
 To bring her mother home to live with the family.
 To talk.
 To ask for any thing she happens to desire.
 The last word.
MEN'S RIGHTS.
 They haven't any.
A FATAL MISSTEP.
 A Freight Conductor Falls from the Top of his Train.

AN IMPORTANT COMPROMISE.

Litigation Over a Fifteen Million Dollar Mine at an End. ASPEN COL., April 25.—25.—The report that a compromise was about to be effected in the famous Side-Line Apex mining litigation was to-day committed. The final settlement and the signing of the papers will not take place till Thursday, when Hon. T. M. Patterson will arrive here from Chicago. About all the preliminaries are arranged for. Compromise over these has been pending ever since J. B. Wheeler of Cincinnati came into the compromising company last October. The full particulars of the terms agreed upon cannot be made public till the papers are signed. It has not been ascertained as yet to whom the credit is due for this peaceful measure, but Senator Teller for the Apex and ex-Congressman Belford for the Side-Line were the advising counsels. Butler and Brown has each owned one-third of the Side Line. J. B. Wheeler owned one-third, which he put into compromise company, Wheeler owning one-half the stock, it is said; Butler and Brown came in on the same terms, less the expense incurred in the present trade. Another report is that Butler and Brown retain 5-12 and the receiver \$100,000 from the first proceeds of the mine, which is to-day valued at \$15,000,000.

Rates to the Drill.

HOUSTON, April 20, 1888. CIRCULAR L 295. As it is claimed that circular L 227, dated February 20, 1888, does not give correctly the expression of the executive committee, as regards the territorial limits within which the maximum rate of \$5 shall apply, the following is issued in lieu thereof, as a clearer construction of the desires of that committee:

The minimum rate for round-trip tickets from points in Texas for the public and bands of music (state or United States) to Austin, at the dedication of the new state capitol, in May, 1888, shall be one fare until a maximum of \$5 is reached. All stations on Southern Pacific Railway between Orange and Spofford Junction, both inclusive; all stations on Texas and Pacific Railway between Texarkana and Cisco, both inclusive, (and stations on Transcontinental division); all stations on the Texas Central Railway east of, including Cisco; all stations east of and including Henrietta, on Fort Worth and Denver City Railway; all stations on the Houston and Texas Central Railway; all stations in Texas on Missouri Pacific Railway; all stations in Texas on Houston, East and West Texas Railway; all stations in Texas on Gulf, Colorado and Santa Fe Railway; all stations in Texas on St. Louis, Arkansas and Texas Railway; all stations in Texas on St. Louis and San Francisco Railway.

J. WALDO, Commissioner.

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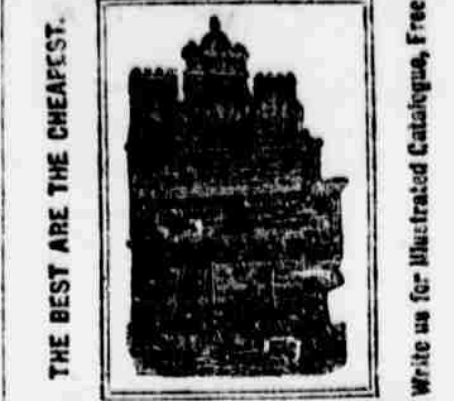
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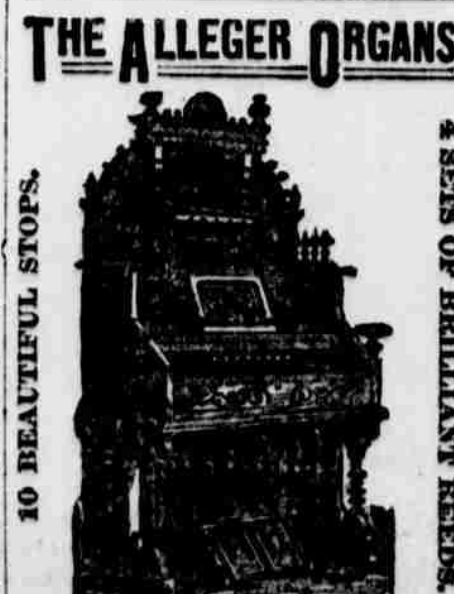
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