

THE MERKEL MAIL.

\$1.00 a Year.

Devoted to the Interests of Merkel and the Merkel Country.

Eight Pages.

VOL. XII.

MERKEL, TEXAS, JANUARY 2g, 1902

NO. 49

REAL ESTATE AND INSURANCE

I have established a General Real Estate and Insurance Office in Merkel. It shall be my business to Sell Lands on Commission, Rent Property in the City, Collect and Remit Rents, Pay Taxes, Secure Abstracts of Title, Write Deeds, Mortgages, Conveyances, and all kinds of Commercial and Negotiable Papers. Notary Public in office

If you have lands for sale in any part of the country, list it with me, and the same will be advertised from time to time with no other charges than regular commissions when sale is made.

If you have lots or houses, or lots in the city, for sale or rent, list them on my books and get quick returns.

I want a list of all property in Merkel that is for sale or for rent.

A large and spacious office in rear of First National Bank has been fitted up with tables and chairs for your convenience. Drop in and see me.

YOURS FOR BUSINESS,

T. A. JOHNSON.

for the scarcity of labor and material, we would have made the necessary improvements at Merkel before this time. You can rest assured it is something that will come about in the near future. The management of the road has at all times felt that there was no territory on the line of the road where the interests of the Texas & Pacific and the people were more closely allied than the territory in West Texas."

The above letter, while naturally guarded, shows in its literal meaning that we can expect a new depot some time during the present year and possibly inside of a very few months. This will be good news to the people of Merkel, and in common with The Mail they extend sincere thanks to Mr. Thorne for his kind and courteous letter, and also to the management of the road for their manifest interest in the future growth and prosperity of the town.

"Some time ago my daughter caught a severe cold. She complained of pains in her chest and had a bad cough. I gave her Chamberlain's Cough Remedy according to directions and in two days she was well and able to go to school. I have used this remedy in my family for the past seven years and have never known it to fail," says James Prendergast, merchant, Annato Bay, Jamaica, West India Islands. The pains in the chest indicated an approaching attack of pneumonia, which in this instance was undoubtedly warded off by Chamberlain's Cough Remedy. It counteracts any tendency of a cold toward pneumonia. Sold by Rust & Pittard.

SONS OF CONFEDERATES.

Camp Organized Sunday with Thirty-Five Members.

The organization of United Sons of Confederate Veterans was perfected Sunday evening, with thirty-five charter members. This number, however, includes the wives and daughters of Confederates who will later organize a chapter, but at the present the two organizations will work together for mutual good. The officers elected for the ensuing year are as follows:

Ed J. Leeman, Captain.
A. C. Browning, 1st Lieut.
W. B. Mann, 2nd Lieut.
W. B. Leeman, Secretary.
A. H. Baker, Treasurer.
J. S. French, Sergeant.

The other offices were left vacant until the next regular meeting of the Camp.

The organization starts out under very inviting circumstances and the members have taken unusual interest in the work. The chief design in organizing the Camp is to perpetuate the personal war record of those who fought, and those who died for their country; to cultivate the ties of friendship that should exist among those whose ancestors have shared common dangers, sufferings and privations, and to instill into the coming generation a proper veneration for the spirit and glory of their

J. T. Warren, Pres.

S. F. West, V-Pres.

Geo. S. Berry, Cashier.

THE FIRST NATIONAL BANK

OF MERKEL

CAPITAL, = = = \$30,000
SURPLUS, = = = \$ 4,000

We Guarantee Satisfaction to our Customers, and offer them the Services of a Reliable and Conservative Banking Institution which is at all times Willing and Able to extend every Courtesy Consistent with Sound Business Principles.

NEW DEPOT IS ASSURED

WORK MAY SOON COMMENCE IN EARNEST.

A Letter From General Manager Thorne that Carries Conviction With It.

The editor of The Mail, at the request of the business men of Merkel, wrote General Manager Thorne, of the Texas & Pacific Railway Company, relative to the contemplated improvements that it was supposed the company had in view here. The need of the town in the way of better depot facilities was cited, and facts were given to show that the need is imperative and that it would

be to the interests of the company to hasten the projected improvement. Such a move, it was stated, would give an impetus to industrial progress and result in incalculable good to the town. It was hoped by this means to secure an expression from Mr. Thorne which would give the people some grounds for hope that the company had not lost sight of the town altogether. In this we were not disappointed, as the following extract from Mr. Thorne's letter will testify:

"We have included in our improvements for this year remodeling or a new station at Merkel. The company fully appreciates the business and the kind and courteous treatment received from your citizens, and wish to meet you half way in all matters. In fact, had it not been

fathers.

The next meeting of the Camp will take place on Saturday night, Feb. 1st.

JOHN W. HAMPTON SHOT.

The Wound Results Seriously. Leg Amputated.

Geo. S. Berry received a letter from Shafter, Texas, Saturday, which brought the intelligence of the accidental shooting of his brother-in-law, John W. Hampton, on the 15th inst. He was carelessly handling a pistol when it went off, the ball penetrating his right leg just below the knee. Both bones were broken, and one of them shattered for six or eight inches, necessitating the amputation of the leg four inches below the knee.

At last accounts John was resting nicely, and if no further complications set in he will rapidly recover. The news of the accident will be received here, where John formerly made his home, with genuine regrets.

A CURIOUS CALCULATION.

A London newspaper prints the following curious calculation made by an ingenious correspondent:

"When reading the account of the sad death of Mr. McKinley, I noticed the figures of the dates of birth, the death and the age of the late president, and also the birth, of the present age of Mr. Roosevelt, the present president, were very peculiar. Mr. McKinley was born in 1843, Mr. Roosevelt succeeded Mr. McKinley at the age of 43; Mr. Roosevelt was born in 1858, Mr. McKinley died at the age of 58. Now, if we add the two ages of the late and present president together and add 1800 for the eighteenth century, in which they were born, we shall have the death of the late president."

Hamlet: "Angels and ministers of grace defend us: be thou a spirit or health or goblin damned," if I know a better place to buy Wind Mills and pumps than from Elliott & Miller. 4t

THE HOME GOLD CURE.

An Ingenious Treatment by Which Drunkards are Being Cured Daily in Spite of Themselves.

No Noxious Doses. No Weakening of the Nerves. A Pleasant and Positive Cure for the Liquor Habit.

It is now generally known and understood that Drunkenness is a disease and no weakness. A body filled with poison and nerves shattered by periodical or constant use of heating liquors, requires an antidote capable of neutralizing and eradicating this poison, and destroying the craving for intoxicants. Sufferers may now cure themselves at home without publicity or loss of time from business by this wonderful "HOME GOLD CURE" which has been perfected after many years of close study and treatment of inebriates. The faithful use according to directions of this wonderful discovery is positively guaranteed to cure the most obstinate case, no matter how hard a drinker. Our records show the marvelous transformation of thousands of drunkards into sober, industrious and upright men.

Wives, cure your husbands! Children, cure your fathers! This remedy is in no sense a nostrum, but is a specific for this disease only, and is so skillfully devised and prepared that it is thoroughly soluble and pleasant to the taste, so that it can be given in a cup of tea or coffee without the knowledge of the person drinking it. Thousands of drunkards have cured themselves with this priceless remedy and as many more have been cured and made temperate men by having the "CURE" administered by loving friends and relatives without their knowledge in tea or coffee, and believe today that they discontinued drinking of their own free will. Do Not Wait! Do not be deluded by apparent and misleading "improvement." Drive out the disease at once and for all time. The "Home Gold Cure" is sold at the extremely low price of One Dollar, thus placing within the reach of everybody a treatment more effectual than others costing \$25 to \$50. Full directions accompany each package. Special advice by skilled physicians when requested without extra charge. Sent prepaid to any part of the world on receipt of One Dollar. Address Dept. 1, EDWIN B. GILES & CO. 2330 and 2332 Market St., Philadelphia.

All correspondence strictly confidential.
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REMARKABLE CURE OF CROUP. A Little Boy's Life Saved.

I have a few words to say regarding Chamberlain's Cough Remedy. It saved my little boy's life and I feel that I cannot praise it enough. I bought a bottle of it from A. E. Steare of Goodwin, S. D., and when I got home with it the poor baby could hardly breathe. I gave the medicine as directed every ten minutes until he "threw up" and then I thought sure he was going to choke to death. We had to pull the phlegm out of his mouth in great long strings. I am positive that if I had not got that bottle of cough medicine, my boy would not be on earth today.—Joel Demont, Inwood, Iowa. For sale by Rust & Pittard.

Try reading The Mail.

BLACK LEG VACCINE

PARK-DAVIS PASTEUR'S EXCELSIOR

We are agents in Merkel for these well-known brands of Black Leg Vaccine. They are the best on the market to-day. We can supply your wants for almost any quantity, and our prices are as low as you will find anywhere in this country. If you need anything in this line we should be glad to figure with you on either large or small quantities.

SAVE YOUR CALVES



FROM
12 1-2c
TO
60c
A ROLL

RUST & PITTARD

The Merkel Mail.

ED J. LEE MAN, PUBLISHER.

Published Every Thursday.

TELEPHONE NUMBERS:

Office 31
Residence 37

If you know of any news item, we will consider it a special favor if you will report same to this office, either by person, letter or over the phone to either of the above numbers.

ANNOUNCEMENTS.

RATES:

For District Offices \$10.00
For County Offices 5.00
For Precinct Offices 3.00

All announcements must be accompanied by the cash; no promise of future payment goes, and no deviation from this rule will be made. The above rates does not include name on ticket. Extra write-ups of candidates appearing elsewhere than in this column must be paid for at the usual rates.

DEMOCRATIC.

(All announcements under this head are subject to the action of the Democratic party.)

For County Treasurer:

J. H. THORNTON.
(re-election.)

JNO. T. TUCKER.

For Sheriff and Tax Collector:

J. V. CUNNINGHAM.
(re-election.)

For Tax Assessor:

G. C. JACKSON.
(re-election.)

For County and District Clerk:

S. H. GARRISON.
(re-election.)

For County Attorney:

T. A. BLEDSOE.
(re-election.)

For Justice of Peace, Pre. 5, and Commissioner Pre. 2:

J. J. MILLER.
(re-election.)

Cabinets and Cabinet-Making.

The gradual reconstruction of Mr. Roosevelt's Cabinet lends a direct and timely interest to an article which the Hon. Charles Emory Smith has just written for The Saturday Evening Post, of Philadelphia.

Cabinets and Cabinet-Making tells how Presidents choose their official advisers; how nice political considerations influence their choice and reduce to lowest terms the number of available candidates.

One of the most important conclusions reached by Mr. Smith is that most Presidents have followed one or two methods in forming their official families: that of Mr. Lincoln and his predecessors, who surrounded themselves with party leaders and former Presidential candidates, and that of Mr. McKinley, who appointed strong, broad-gauged men, regardless of previous political preeminence.

This article will appear in an early issue of The Saturday Evening Post.

From February "Success."

Endeavor to ascertain what is that particular defect of temper into which you are the most liable to fall, and make a point of setting a strong guard over yourself in that particular. Let this idea be kept ever present in your mind: "At some weak part of my nature all the miseries of life may enter." This will probably be found a hard service, but the necessity of the case obliges you to render it. You have the choice of but two things: you

must be incessantly vigilant and self-denying here, or suffer every delight to be torn from you.

Memory is an essential that can be cultivated. There is no acceptable apology possible for a poor memory, and is one thing a public will not forgive. A great deal of time is not required to cultivate a memory, since, when on a train, in the street, or anywhere else, in fact, one may be memorizing, and every line or bar intelligently committed to memory is an advance.

The majority of us learn, too late, that anything which will add to brain-power, to physical energy, to mental power, is the greatest economy, no matter what it costs. We should never deprive ourselves of nourishment, of exercise, or of anything which will add to our personal power.

The corner stone of character, that on which the whole edifice is to rest, must be truth. Be truthful in word and deed and act, faithful to your conception of right, and you can no more help building a noble character than the earth can help moving on its orbit. A boy who has the courage to tell the truth under all circumstances, even when it may appear to be to his own disadvantage, will never do a mean, unmanly, or dishonest thing. He will not stoop to do anything questionable, no matter what material gain it may promise.

The man who gets the most out of life is the one who is always looking up, who is determined that everything he does, every investment he makes, shall leave him a little higher up, a little further on. To learn, therefore, how to spend for the higher faculties instead of the lower, so that the manly qualities, rather than the animal, may be developed, is a problem that confronts us.

A man who does things is one who is alive to the very tips of his fingers. He is alert, always on the watch for opportunities. He does not give idleness time to dissipate him. He fights against that malady known as a "tired-feeling," and conquers it.

A Mixed Train.

On some of the Western roads they attach a passenger car to a freight train, and call it "mixed." It isn't in the order of things that such trains should travel very rapidly, and sometimes there is considerable growling among the traffic.

"Are we most there, conductor?" asked a nervous man for the hundredth time. Remember, my wife is sick, and I'm anxious."

"We'll get there on time," replied the conductor stolidly.

Half an hour later the nervous man approached him again.

"I guess she's dead now," said he mournfully, "but I'd give you a little something extra, if you could manage to catch up with the funeral. Maybe she won't be so decomposed but what I could recognize her!"

The conductor growled at him, and the man subsided.

"Conductor," said he, after an hour's silence—"conductor, if the wind isn't dead ahead, I wish you would put on some steam. I'd like to see where my wife is buried before the tombstone crumbles to pieces? Put yourself in my place for a moment!"

The conductor shook him off, and the man relapsed into profound melancholy.

"I say, conductor," said he after a long pause. "I've got a note coming due in three months. Can't you fix it so as to rattle along a little?"

"If you come near me again I'll knock you down!" snorted the conductor, savagely.

The nervous man regarded him sadly and went to his seat. Two hours later the conductor saw him chattering gayly, and laughing heartily with a brother victim, and approached him.

"Don't feel so badly about your wife's death?"

"Time heals all wounds," sighed the nervous man.

"And you are not so particular about that note," sneered the conductor.

"Not now. That's all right. Don't worry. I've been figuring up, and I find that the note has been outlawed since I spoke to you last!"

CLOSING OUT!

In order to make room for other goods that we expect to buy, we are very anxious to CLOSE OUT what we have on hand as soon as possible. In fact, the sooner we CLOSE OUT what we have the sooner we will buy more. And in order to accomplish this much desired end, we will sell our

.....ENTIRE STOCK AT COST.....

and carriage and a small per cent for ourselves. WE MEAN IT. Come and see our large stock of HARDWARE and GROCERIES; also Buggies, Wagons, Plows, Planters, and Cultivators.

G. F. WEST.

When it comes to Feed, we've got it....



Bed Rock Prices!

In order to close out present stock to make room for new goods

Saddles, Harness, Etc.,

within a reasonable time, I have marked everything down to Bed Rock Prices.

You will save money by calling on me before buying elsewhere. Respectfully,

Z. F. GREEN.

J. R. McAdams has traded his harness shop and residence for Gorman property, the purchaser being A. C. Bennett of that place. Mr. McAdams will move about the first. The Mail wishes him well and hopes the change will prove most profitable.

A WORTHY SUCCESSOR.

"Something New Under the Sun."

All doctors have tried to cure Catarrh by the use of powders, acid gases, inhalers and drugs in paste form. Their powders dry up the mucous membranes causing them to crack open and bleed. The powerful acids used in the inhalers have entirely eaten away the same membranes that their makers have aimed to cure, while pastes and ointments can not reach the disease. An old and experienced practitioner who has for many years made a close study and speciality of the treatment of Catarrh has at last perfected a treatment which, when faithfully used, not only relieves at once, but permanently cures Catarrh, by removing the cause, stopping the discharges and curing all inflammation. It is the only remedy known to science that actually reaches the afflicted parts. This wonderful remedy is known as "SNUFFLES, the Guaranteed Catarrh Cure" and is sold at the extremely low price of One Dollar, each package containing internal and external medicine sufficient for a full month's treatment and everything necessary for its perfect use.

"SNUFFLES" is the only perfect catarrh cure ever made and is now recognized as the only safe and positive cure for that annoying and disgusting disease. It cures all inflammation quickly and permanently, and is also wonderfully quick to relieve Hay Fever or Cold in the Head.

Catarrh when neglected often leads to Consumption—"SNUFFLES" will save you if you use it at once. It is no ordinary remedy, but a complete treatment which is positively guaranteed to cure catarrh in any form or stage if used according to the directions which accompany each package. Don't delay, but send for it at once, and write full particulars as to your condition, and you will receive special advice from the discoverer of this wonderful remedy regarding your case without cost to you beyond the regular price of "SNUFFLES," the Guaranteed Catarrh Cure.

Sent prepaid to any address in the United States or Canada on receipt of One Dollar. Address Dept. J, EDWIN B. GILES & Co., 230 and 232, Market St., Philadelphia.

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Come and see our new mouldings. Latest styles.

W. P. Browning & Co.

We have a nice line of carriages. Come and see them.

W. P. Browning & Co.

NOTICE.

Dr. T. S. Hollis, Dentist, be here Feb. 3, 4, 5 and 6—days. This is his last trip in the fall. This trip he has a complete outfit to do all the methods in dentistry. Will at Alsbrook hotel.

'Phone 43 when you want fresh meats and groceries.

If you want to increase your trade, advertise.

Smith & Davis can furnish with what you want to 'Phone No. 43.

A Tripple Hanging.

Smith, Brown and Jones hang all their hopes of recovery upon Cheatham's Laxative Chill Tablets. They will be around soon shaking hands with friends. 2 No cure—no pay.

Headache.

Sick headache, nervous headache, tired headache, neuralgic headache, catarrhal headache, headache from excitement, in fact, headaches of all kinds are quickly and surely cured with

DR. MILES' Pain Pills.

Also all pains such as backache, neuralgia, sciatica, rheumatic pains, monthly pains, etc.

"Dr. Miles' Pain Pills are worth their weight in gold," says Mr. W. D. Kreamer, of Arkansas City, Kan. "They cured my wife of chronic headache when nothing else would."

"Dr. Miles' Pain Pills drive away pain as if by magic. I am never without a supply, and think everyone should keep them handy. One or two pills taken on approach of headache will prevent it every time."

Mrs. JUDGE JOHNSON, Chicago, Ill.

Through their use thousands of people have been enabled to attend social and religious functions, travel, enjoy amusements, etc., with comfort. As a preventive, when taken on the approach of a recurring attack, they are excellent.

Sold by all Druggists. 25 Doses, 25 cents. Dr. Miles Medical Co., Elkhart, Ind.

To Our Customers and Friends

We extend to you our sincere thanks for the patronage given us the past year. We have done all that was possible for us to do in your behalf, and we assure you that we shall look well to your future business. We have always sold goods on a close and legitimate margin, and have always carried a high-grade, well assorted stock of Dry Goods, and you have shown your appreciation by the trade you have

given us. We call special attention to the fact that the people in our territory are wearing a much higher grade of goods than before we came here, less than a year ago, that they see it is Economy to buy Good Goods. We will always try to retain the high standard which we have placed before you.

To those who are not our customers we ask, give us a chance to satisfy you that our methods of doing business are the best, and then you will be a firm believer in Merkel as a first-class trade center.

Yours truly,

...FITTS & SMITH.

EXCLUSIVE DRY GOODS.....

FITTS

= & =

SMITH

SPOT: CASH

Merchants

MERKEL, - - TEXAS

THE MERKEL MAIL.

ED J. LEEMAN,
EDITOR AND PROPRIETOR

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

Subscription Rates:

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

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

SPECIAL NOTICES.

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

The election for school incorporation comes off inside of two weeks, possibly one week from next Saturday. The map of the district proposed to be incorporated was sent to the Attorney General for his approval, and there can now be no doubt of the legality of the election if held. Judge Hill will order the election this week and notices will be posted to that effect. The Mail rejoices at the dispatch with which the incorporation idea has been worked up. It feels gratified that there is little if any opposition to it, and believes that a new school building will be erected that will be a credit to the town and an honor to its citizens. Merkel is no longer a town whose growth is to be hampered by inadequate school facilities, but demands a building that will comfortably accommodate school interests for years to come. Our people are broad-gauged and liberal in the matter of public expenditures for public

good, but they were unequal to the task of furnishing the town with a building which its growth demands. The idea of incorporation for school purposes was, therefore, eagerly embraced, and now it is in a fair way of being carried to a successful termination. It will be worth more to the town and to the property holders than anything that could be thought of at this time.

It is always the duty of political parties to select high class men for all offices, whether important or unimportant. The time has come when this is no longer a duty, but a necessity. It is doubtful if there ever was a time when inefficient men were necessary to the enforcement of the law. But it has not been many years since the fact of a man being the nominee of a political party entitled him to the support of its followers. Political ideas have been revolutionized to the extent that efficiency must come before loyalty, and the man who preferred a "yaller dog" of his own party to a good man of another party has "gone away back and sat down"—in fact, he is a has-been. Loyalty to party is a happy virtue, but it does not preclude the possibility of bad men being of our own faith and susceptible to abnormal ambitions for pie.

The organization of a camp of United Sons of Confederate Veterans at this place was a move in the right direction and can but be productive of much good. The ranks of the old soldiers are being thinned out pretty fast now and very soon the last one will answer the roll call "up yonder." As sons and daughters of these old heroes it rests with us to

perpetuate their memory and hand down to the coming generation a true account of their deeds of valor, heroic self-sacrifices and the untold anguish of a cause, loved and lost, for which they fought so valiantly. We owe this to our fathers if not to our country. Then let those who have taken upon themselves the responsibility for the carrying on of this work see to it that it does not lag in interest and that the cause is kept refreshed in the memory of the rising generation.

The manufacturing interests of Texas have an eager and expectant eye on Congress. If the Nicaragua canal is assured we can expect to turn the State over to manufacturers, and every man should rejoice at that. It means that we can live at home and board at the same place, and have an outlet for those things which we are not able to consume.

More homes and better homes are being built in the Merkel Country, notwithstanding the hard times, than ever before. The Merkel Country will do to depend upon. People are not slow to realize this fact and are building homes for future use and comfort.

The Quarantine Board has passed an order placing twelve additional counties, viz. Tom Green, Irion, Sterling, Mitchell, Scurry, Fisher, Jones, Haskell, Knox, Foard, Wilbarger and Hardeman, east of the quarantine line.

There are people who are always ready to "make remarks" about anything that may come up. Even the braying of a donkey excites their interest.

The West Texas Farmers' Institute, held at Abilene Friday, was said to be a very interesting and profitable meeting. The attendance was large, which shows that considerable interest is being felt in the institute by the farmers, who will be the beneficiaries from the good it may accomplish. Every farmer ought to join the organization and help in its perpetuation.

Congress has decided that the United States should be addressed in the singular number. Hereafter, when speaking of this aggregation of States be sure to use the verb "is" instead of "are," for it is Congressional lore, and proper, don't you know.

The dry weather has proved a great detriment to the growth of the small grain crop, and the result is that the yield will be cut half in two, even if early rains come.

The pitfalls of the bucket-shop do not seem to have any terrors for Mr. Phillips, the corn king. He comes up smiling after each tumble.

Don't neglect the importance of planting a few ornamental, fruit and shade trees around your premises.

The Hanna-Foraker fight in Ohio was a dog fall. The politicians always manage to fall on top.

There is a lurking suspicion in the breast of each candidate that he will have an opponent in the race.

The ship subsidy steal is a bare-faced possibility.

The calamity howler—was there ever such a fellow?

Revolution as Fuel.

A gentleman was here Saturday selling rights to the Henderson oil burner, which is attachable to stoves or fire-places for burning crude Beaumont oil. It is claimed that 3 cents worth of oil will keep an average stove red hot all day. The burner is a piece of cast moulded in the shape of a cylinder, six to twelve inches long and one inch in circumference. To one end is attached a half-inch pipe which connects with a reservoir, and is fed pretty much the same way as a gasoline burner.

It is claimed for the Beaumont oil that it is a non-explosive, and therefore the burner is absolutely safe and will last a lifetime. This opens another avenue for the oil. It is stated that inside of two years there will not be a ton of coal or a cord of wood used West Texas, for Beaumont oil is rapidly taking their place.

Don't get in the way of the town's progress.

The West Texas sand storm is a panacea for every ill.

In the choosing of two evils take neither one of them.

Let's go to work on that school building right away. The new depot is an assured fact.

The latest fool bill introduced in Congress is the one which proposes to pension ex-Presidents to the tune of \$25,000 a year.

There are great things in store for Merkel. The laying of the corner stone of the new house will pave the way for greater industrial progress on all lines than the town has before enjoyed.

fragile babe and the grow-
child are strengthened by
White's Cream Vermifuge. It
destroys worms, gets digestion at
work, and so rebuilds the body.
Price 25c at F. M. Davis'.

Buy your Grain, Hay and
Salt from G. M. Sharp, the only
exclusive Grain Dealer in Mer-
kel.

BRAN at West's. Best and
cheapest.

The Mail's 'phone is 31. If
you know any item of news, or if
friends or relatives are visiting
you, or if you are going or have
been off on a visit, please let us
know. It will be a great favor.

There is a time for all things.
The time to take S i m m o n ' s
Cough Syrup is when afflicted
with sore throat, hoarseness,
coughs or colds. It is guaran-
teed to cure you. Price 25 and
50 cents.

A Quick Settlement.

Merkel, Texas, Jan. 18, 1902.
H. C. Williams:

Received check today for fifty
dollars (\$50) in full settlement of
my claim against the Aetna Ac-
cident Insurance Company for
sick benefit. Accept my thanks
for prompt payment of same.

Yours,
I. S. Allen.

Buy McDonald Shirts and
Overalls.

J. T. Warren.

CORN at West's. P r i c e s
right. Corn sound.

James Smith of Mansfield,
brother of our Bumps Smith,
who had been prospecting here,
left for home Monday night.

If you have some good vendor
lien notes you wish to cash, I
can probably place them for you.
H. C. Williams.

Youthful Scrappers.

A knife in the hands of a small
boy is sometimes a dangerous
weapon.

Monday evening Jack Barnes
and Auti Coggin, two boys about
12 years old, got mixed up in a
"scrap" and when the smoke of
battle had cleared away Auti was
found to be cut in two places, on
the chest and shoulder blade.
The wound on the chest was an
inch long and barely extended
through the hide, while the other
wound was about two inches long
and penetrated through the mus-
cle of the shoulder. Neither
wound is serious, however, and
Auti will soon be out again.

The boys should learn a lesson
from this narrow escape and re-
frain from such dangerous pas-
sage in the future.

FEED—4 carloads—at West's.
Twill be to your interest to see
him before buying.

POPULATION OF COUNTRY.

Washington, Jan. 7.—The
Census Bureau today issued a
report announcing that the pop-
ulation of the entire United
States, including all outlying
possessions, was 84,233,069 in
the census year 1900. This is
itemized as follows: Continen-
tal United States, or United
States proper, 75,994,575 (here-
before announced); Philippines
8,961,339, being the estimate of
the statistician to the Philippine
Commission; Porto Rico 953,243,
Hawaii 154,001, Alaska 63,592,
Guam 9,000, American Samoa
6,100, persons in the military and
navy service of the United States
outside of the territory of the
United States proper, 91,219.

so t Y at West's. Price it. Try
an

Herbine should be used to en-
rich and purify the blood; it
cures all forms of blood disorders,
is especially useful in fevers,
skin eruptions, boils, pimples,
blackheads, scrofula, salt rheum
and every form of blood impuri-
ty; it is a safe and effectual cure.
Price, 50c at F. M. Davis'.

Phone G. M. Sharp when you
want feed.

Geo. S. Berry has purchased
the W. P. Thurmond residence
in South Merkel. This is one of
the best homes in the town and
George is to be congratulated
upon the acquisition of such
valuable property.

Mr. and Mrs. G. W. Boyce re-
turned Sunday from a month's
visit at Beaumont. No doubt
the trip was a pleasant one, but
we are glad to see them at home
again.

When you want meats, vegeta-
bles or fruits 'phone 43.

Taylor County Marriages.

The year 1901 was the record
breaker in the way of marriages
in Taylor county. Clerk Garri-
son issued marriage license to 151
couples and nearly all of them
were returned, executed.

Milton Tippet and Miss Nancy
R. St. John were the first couple
to procure license to wed 1901,
the date being January 2, and A.
F. Roberts and Miss Mary S.
Roberts were the last, their
license being issued Dec. 31st.—
Abilene News.

When wanting anything to eat
'phone 43.

I represent companies that will
give you reliable insurance—
fire, life, accident and health—
at reasonable rates.

H. C. Williams.

Jud Sheppard prospected at
Roscoe Sunday.

J. H. Foudy of Mansfield, a
cousin of T. A. Johnson, was
here prospecting this week. He
is looking out a location for a gin
and will probably locate in the
Merkel Country.

We are showing the best \$1.50
hat that ever happened.

J. T. Warren.

Mrs. D. M. Senter returned
Tuesday from a visit to Holder.

Top prices paid for green and
dry hides.

F. P. McGuffin.

Dr. J. R. Orr died Friday of
pneumonia, after an illness of
only a few days, aged 69 years.
He was a new comer here, being
the father of Mrs. Dr. Adkisson
of this place and Y. D. Orr of
Putnam. The burial took place
in the Merkel cemetery. The
Mail joins with the friends of the
family in sincere sympathy.

See G. M. Sharp for your seed
oats, free of Johnson grass.

You can buy Exchange on all
points East at Warnick's Bank.
All business houses prefer that
you remit in bank exchange.
We can sell it to you cheaper
than you can get post office or
express money orders. Small
amounts will receive the same
attention as large ones.

A report was circulated on the
divide last week to the effect that
Merkel had suffered another cal-
lamitous fire. The report had
thoughtlessly been given out for
a "little fun," but was circulated
pretty extensively before it could
be corrected. Boys should be
careful about circulating such
reports, even for fun. It is a
detriment to business interests
and might result seriously to the
town.

To Make Room Not Money.

Below we give a few items which
we propose to sell to make room==
NOT MONEY:

Blankets,
Comforts,
Capes,
Jackets,
Duck Coats,
Over Shirts,
and Winter Dress Goods.

J. T. WARREN

Many a bright and happy
household has been thrown into
sadness and sorrow because of
the death of a loved one from a
neglected cold. Ballard's Hore-
hound Syrup is the great cure
for coughs, colds and all pul-
monary ailments. Price, 25 and
50c at F. M. Davis'.

We are selling some stuff to
make room, not money.
J. T. Warren.

Another Fire at Sweetwater.

Sweetwater was visited by
another disastrous fire, Thursday
night, in which six frame busi-
ness houses were burned, as
follows:

Painter's livery stable.
Williams' restaurant.
Simmons' butcher shop.
Caldwell's restaurant.
O'Keefe's barber shop.
Aycock's saloon.

It was only by most strenuous
efforts that the Sweetwater Mer-
cantile Company's stock, of
which J. J. Pettus is manager,
was saved. The loss is estima-
ted at \$6,000, with insurance of
\$4,000.

We are now in a position to
remit money for you direct to
the State Treasurer or General
Land Office. Please call at this
bank when wanting to transact
business of this kind.

The First National Bank.

Second-hand disc plow for sale.
\$12.50. 5 miles south-east of
Merkel.
2t T. P. Gibson.

Whosoever has suffered from
piles knows how painful and
troublesome they are. Tabler's
Buckeye Pile Ointment is guar-
anteed to cure piles. Price 50c
in bottles. Tubes, 75c at F. M.
Davis'.

Go to G. M. Sharp's for your
bran, oats and wheat chops.

Lewis Martin has bought the
Clark stock of groceries, and
would be pleased to have his
friends call on him. He prom-
ises courteous, generous treat-
ment.

Use Peace-Maker Flour,
J. T. Warren.

See F. P. McGuffin for fresh
meats. Fish Saturdays and
Sundays. Phone No. 61.

5 gallons Pickles and Kraut
\$1.50.

J. T. Warren.

Strayed or Stolen—One mudy
dun horse, about 14½ hands
high, 8 years old, branded X on
left thigh or hip, and dim brand
possibly on shoulder. A liberal
reward will be paid for informa-
tion leading to his recovery.
F. P. McGuffin.

East Texas and Louisiana
Syrup.

J. T. Warren.

Mr. and Mrs. Berry visited in
Abilene Sunday.

Mr. Davis of Cameron, brother
of F. M. Davis, the drug man, is
in the city and will locate here
permanently, we understand.

Bumps Smith is visiting his
parents at Mansfield.

The properties of Ballard's
Snow Liniment possess a range
of usefulness greater than any
other remedy. A day seldom
passes in every household, es-
pecially where there are children,
that it is not needed. Price, 25
and 50c at F. M. Davis'.

I have added the handling of
livestock to my business and
would appreciate anything in
this line.
H. C. Williams.

Finis Lindsey of Abilene was
in the city last week.

Sam Eason, Asa Sheppard and
Harry Hamm arrived from El
Paso Saturday. They tell scary
tales about the sights of the
border city.

Plenty of corn now at G. M.
Sharp's.

The Mail is glad to learn that
C. S. McCord and family will
locate permanently with us. Mr.
McCord's health has improved
wonderfully since his arrival
here.

W. I. Decker, one of The
Mail's substantial Trent sub-
scribers, called around Saturday
and shoved his figures up a
couple of years.

J. J. Miller announces this
week as Commissioner and Jus-
tice of the Peace from the pre-
cinct. Judge Miller is this pres-
ent incumbent of the offices
and has given pretty general
satisfaction. He is honest and
faithful in the discharge of the
duties of the office. Give his
candidacy due consideration.

Now is the Time to Buy.

Having just finished invoicing after the most prosperous year of our business, we take time to wish our patrons A Happy and Prosperous 1902, and to promise the future purchaser at The Reliable Store Better Values and larger gains to choose from than ever before. In the event, as in the past, we shall keep abreast of the times and shall strive to merit the confidence which the people of Taylor and adjoining counties have reposed in this store, by furnishing only Reliable Goods at the Lowest Possible Prices. While invoicing we found ourselves overstocked on the following lines, which we now offer at Bargain Prices:

MEN'S UNDERWEAR.	MEN'S CLOTHING.	LADIES' CAPES.
To make room for new goods, we offer great reductions. A Bargain in every item.	We have more than we care to carry over and make Unusual Prices for 20 Days.	A few only left which you will need for the coming cold weather Yours at Low Prices.

In fact for the next 20 days we will offer unusual bargains in order to reduce stock and prepare for shipments of new goods now in transit
Yours truly,

COME AND BUY NOW...

J. P. SHARP & COMPANY.

TOWN and COUNTRY.. NEWS

WEEKLY BUDGET OF HAPPENINGS THROUGHOUT THE COUNTY....

ABILENE.

United States Deputy Marshal Girand jailed ten men here Sunday morning on the charge of delaying the mail on the Texas Central road Christmas week. Those incarcerated were C. G. Thompson, Jim Motes, Henry Andrews, Tom Weatherby, Tom Isbell, Tom Gilstrap, Berry McBride, Tom Bennett, Berry Yates and Clyde Garrett. They range in age from 15 to 40 years. Nine of them were bonded out Monday ends.

Billy Moore of Stamford was also jailed on a charge of selling whiskey without license.

Joe and Roger Estes of Eastland county were jailed by the government authorities Monday morning on a charge of robbing the post office at Rucker.

A Masonic lodge was organized at Tuscola last Saturday. Thirty-six members were put through.

Hon. J. T. Montgomery of Wichita Falls, candidate for the court of civil appeals, was here the first of the week.

Judge W. R. Smith of Colorado was here Wednesday looking after his political fences.

Mrs. Matilda Choat, aged 65 years, died here Monday night and was buried Tuesday afternoon on the Christian church lot in the city cemetery. By the way, this idea of the different churches owing lots in the cemetery to keep their indigent from being buried in the potters' field is a mighty good thing. It should be adopted in every town where lots have to be purchased for burial purposes.

Dr. J. D. McGee of Mt. Sylvan, has purchased Geo. Stribbling's handsome residence in the north part of town and also the Luckett ranch west of Abilene. He will move here some time in the early spring.

The farmers institute held here last Friday was well attended and much interest manifested. Several very interesting talks were made by different ones and new members were added to the list. The next meeting will be a month from the last. An interesting program is being prepared.

NUBIA.

Jan. 21.—Mrs. Bettie Toombs and daughter, Sallie, have the

mumps.

Miss Amanda McLure of Spr'g Creek is visiting in the Canyon this week.

Mrs. Bulah Dye came in from Jones county Tuesday to visit her father, F. Z. Turner.

Miss Rhoda Leslie was in Nubia Monday.

Ross Harris was in Nubia Sunday.

C. W. Harris has sold out in Nubia and moved out to the farm near Merkel.

J. F. Shaffer has moved to Nubia. Rosebud.

(Delayed from last week.)

Tom Toombs is well of the mumps, and has entered school again.

The infant child of Jack Snow died last Saturday and was buried Sunday. We sympathize with the parents.

J. R. Toombs, C. W. Harris, J. F. Shaffer and Tom Toombs went to Abilene Tuesday.

The pound supper at Mr. Dowdy's last Friday night was enjoyed very much.

Oscar Biggs left last Tuesday for Scurry county.

Lon Watkins visited at Mr. S. H. Leslie's Sunday.

Mam Toombs has got the mumps now.

E. W. Turner has moved to Abilene.

Miss Laura Rawlins of Jones county is visiting her sister, Mrs. Brauscum.

Mrs. John Hill of Merkel is visiting her sister, Mrs. Brauscum.

John Hughes was in Nubia Tuesday.

Henry Porter visited at J. M. Blackburn's Sunday.

P. H. Watkins visited at Lee Pribbles' Sunday. Rosebud.

DORA.

Everybody plowing and getting ready for another crop.

There has been a great deal of new land put in on the Divide this year.

What looks bad and if don't rain in a short time it will all be dead.

Preaching Sunday by Rev. J. L. Elliott of Sweetwater.

J. M. Bryson and Walker Ground went to Abilene Monday after cotton seed cake.

Dr. T. J. Richardson of Ellis county has located at Dora. We

are glad to have him with us.

H. H. Luckett came in Tuesday from Midland where he has his cattle. He reports cattle doing well.

R. A. Linn visits A. R. Sanders' quite often.

Kat Klaw.

J. W. Bounds and family left overland yesterday for Lubbock county. Mr. Bounds still owns a farm near town and we look for him back soon.

A Great Lawyer's Breezy Way.

Barry O'Brien's life of Lord Russell, of Killowen, makes breezy reading. Here is a characteristic anecdote describing the great Irishman's brusque manner on occasions: "How do you do, Sir Charles? I think I had the honor of meeting you with Lord———" "What do you want?" "Well, Sir Charles, I have endeavored to state in my letter———" "Yes I have your letter; and you write it a very slowly hand." "The fact is, Sir Charles, I wrote that letter in a hurry in your waiting room." "Not at all, not at all. You had plenty of time to write a legible note. No; you are careless. Go on." "Well, Sir Charles, a vacancy has occurred in———" "And you are very untidy in your appearance." "Well, I was traveling all night. I only———" "No use; you had plenty of time to make yourself tidy. No; you are naturally careless about your appearance. Go on." "Well Sir Charles, this vacancy occurred in———" "And you are very fat." "Well, Sir Charles, that is hereditary, I am afraid. My father was very fat." "Not at all. I knew your father well. He wasn't fat. It's laziness." But the man got the job.

Attendance at the Big Convention.

A table in the current number of the Harvard Graduates' Magazine gives the figures of registration in the principal colleges and universities of the country for the new college year. From these it appears that the University of California has a university population of 3,794, Chicago university one of 3,974, Columbia one of 4,590. Harvard itself has a round 6,000, Michigan has 4,156, Minnesota 3,800, Northwestern 2,523, Pennsylvania has 2,907, Princeton 1,391, Wisconsin 3,021 and Yale 2,966. Harvard, Stanford and Pennsylvania show losses from last year, Harvard loses 164, Stanford 81 and Pennsylvania 29. The greatest increase is at California, where 587 more persons registered this year than last. Columbia's registration increased by 524, Wisconsin gained 266 persons, Yale gained 139 and Princeton 101.

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

A Senator's Bad Break.

Senator Hoar is in a peck of trouble. The Portuguese and Italian voters of Boston are holding mass meetings and denouncing the venal senator. Their wrath will not be appeased. Some days ago Senator Hoar, in an interview opposing a continuance of Chinese exclusion, said that he did not see why Chinese who were fit for citizenship should be excluded, while Portuguese and Italians who were altogether unfit should be admitted. Senator Hoar, of course, simply meant that individuals who were not fitted for citizenship should be excluded, but the banana and peanut vendors of the Hub regarded his utterances as reflecting upon their entire race. Senator Hoar has tried to square himself in another interview, which has been translated into both Portuguese and Italian, but the excitement has not abated.

How Extremes Meet in Nature.

A French scientist, says the Pall Mall Gazette, has just drawn public attention to certain phenomena which show that the truism "extremes meet" applies with as much force to physical nature as to human character. He relates that in the mountains near Pontgibaud, in Auvergne, there is formed in the hottest part of every summer a most singular ice deposit which has no existence in winter. The local peasantry have never evinced any acute interest in the scientific explanation of this remarkable natural peculiarity, but they have always, from the first, turned it to practical advantage by using the spot for cold storage for the cheese which is the staple product of the district.

Had to Pay for His Wife's Life.

Mrs. Sarah Higly, of Meir, Ind., was rescued from drowning about a year ago by Marion Rutherford and William Miller—who happened to be on hand—on the offer of Mr. Higly of \$1,000 to anyone who would save his wife's life. Then Mr. Higly refused to pay and assigned his farm to Mrs. Higly. The court has decided that Higly must pay and the farm has been sold for the purpose.

King's Ireland Trip Abandoned.

A London dispatch says that the proposed visit of King Edward and Queen Alexandra to Ireland, which was to have taken place next spring, or after the king's coronation, has been abandoned on account of the disturbed state of that country.

Fortune Knocks Once at Every Man's Door

and this may be the rap that will tempt you to court the fair goddess that rules the world.

The days of '49 were a wild scramble of the adventurer to find the yellow metal that has brought prosperity in its wake wherever found and made more millionaires than any other one industry. Mining for precious metals has been gradually narrowing down to a science until today it is considered the safest avenue for the investment of money with almost surely the largest returns.

INTELLIGENT INVESTMENT

of small sums in the co-operative plan of mining has put not a few men and women on the road to prosperity. The company doing this advertising has four undeveloped but promising claims in a proven mining district and offers an attractive proposition to secure the co-operation of money to be used in the development of its property. It is now placing the first installment of treasury stock on the market at a nominal figure, and if you are interested, write for prospectus and other information. Address

Spanish Gulch Gold Mining Co., The Dalles, Ore.

DRUGS..

EVERYTHING NEW!

I have opened up a stock of Pure, Fresh Drugs, Patent Medicines, Paints, Oils, Wall Paper, Sundries, Etc., next door to First National Bank, and invite the patronage of all.

All Prescription Work is done by a Registered Pharmacist, insuring best results.

Nicest line of Druggists' Sundries in the town.

F. M. HEAVIS.

You've got the real thing when you get Hunt's Lightning Oil for burns, bruises, cuts or sprains. The most penetrating and long lasting liniment known. Guaranteed. Price 25 and 50 cents.

A GOOD THING.

German Syrup is the special prescription of Dr. A. Boschee, a celebrated German Physician, and is acknowledged to be one of the most fortunate discoveries in medicine. It quickly cures coughs, Colds and all Lung troubles of the severest nature, moving, as it does, the cause of the affection and leaving the parts in a strong and healthy condition. It is not an experimental medicine, but has stood the test of years, giving satisfaction in every case, which its rapidly increasing sale every season confirms. Two million bottles sold annually. Boschee's German Syrup was introduced in the United States in 1868, and is now sold in every town and village in the civilized world. Three doses will relieve any ordinary cough. Price 75c at Rust & Pittard's. Get Green's Prize Almanac.

Resolutions of Respect.

To the W. M., Wardens and Brethren of Merkel Lodge No. 710, A. F. & A. M.:

We, your committee on resolutions of respect to Bro. H. C. Childress, deceased, submit the following report:

Whereas, it has pleased Almighty God to remove from our midst our beloved and venerable brother H. C. Childress, to the Celestial Grand Lodge above, who was born in Hawkins Co., Tenn., on April 4, 1812; was made a Mason 52 years ago; served two years in the Mexican War and three years in the Confederate army and was captain of a Texas company; was charter member of Merkel Lodge and its first W. M., and served 70 years in the army of our Lord, and was promoted to a seat at His right hand for valiant service in completely routing every fear of the grave and gladly welcoming death on Dec. 31, 1901. Therefore be it resolved,

1. That Merkel Lodge has lost a worthy member and Masonry a devoted brother, the community a useful citizen and his family a loving father and grandfather.

2. That we extend our heartfelt sympathy to his relatives and friends in their sad bereavement.

3. That a copy of these resolutions be sent to his family, spread on the minutes of this Lodge and published in the Merkel Mail.

4. That the members of this Lodge wear the usual badge of mourning for 30 days.

- I. S. Allen,
 - W. W. Wheeler,
 - J. A. Leeman,
 - A. A. Baker,
- Committee.

Read R. B. Ustick's ad.

Hair Splits

"I have used Ayer's Hair Vigor for thirty years. It is elegant for a hair dressing and for keeping the hair from splitting at the ends."—J. A. Gruenfelder, Grantfork, Ill.

Hair-splitting splits friendships. If the hair-splitting is done on your own head, it loses friends for you, for every hair of your head is a friend.

Ayer's Hair Vigor in advance will prevent the splitting. If the splitting has begun, it will stop it.

\$1.00 a bottle. All druggists.

If your druggist cannot supply you, send us one dollar and we will express a bottle. Be sure and give the name of nearest express office. Address, J. C. AYER CO., Lowell, Mass.

Queensware at Cost.

The holiday trade on Queensware was unusually heavy, but I still have a large stock, and during January you can buy anything in this line at **ABSOLUTE COST**. Come and look over and price my mammoth stock. At cost for 30 Days.

W. H. DICKSON
HEADQUARTERS FOR...
HARDWARE FARM IMPLEMENTS
WAGONS WIRE NAILS ETC.

Advertised Letters.

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

- MATTIE R. WITT, P. M.
- Armstead, Della Hauze, P. E.
- Jackson, Mrs Emma Lauglen, Joe
- Jones, Miss Nettie Moore, Lillie
- Montgomery, Mrs Mollie
- Rosa Peck, Dr. D C
- Privette, Miss Julie Sewell, J W
- Warnick, S H Wimberly, A M
- Wasen, T J

We handle the New Royal Sewing Machine at \$20.

W. P. Browning & Co.

New Century Comfort.

Millions are daily finding a world of comfort in Bucklen's Arnica Salve. It keeps pain from burns, scalds, cuts, bruises; conquers ulcers and fever sores; cures eruptions, salt rheum, boils and felons; removes corns and warts. Best pile cure on earth. Only 25c at Rust & Pittard's.

Election on Incorporation Feb. 1st.

We have succeeded in getting the boundary lines of the school district definitely established, have secured the approval of the Attorney General on the field notes and plat of the district, and have had the election on incorporation ordered by Judge Hill for next Saturday week, Feb. 1, 1902. Notices of the same may be found in front at the postoffice, at J. T. Warren's store, and F.M. Davis' drug store. J. C. Calvert has been appointed as presiding officer to hold said election.

Let it be clearly understood that this election is for the purpose of voting as to whether this school district shall be organized into an independent district for free school purposes only, and that the question of issuing bonds or levying taxes is an after consideration and requires a separate election. The incorporation is a good thing even if there is to be no bonds or tax voted. As a proof one has only to inquire at some place where they have tried it.

Every legal voter who has resided in this school district for the past six months is entitled to vote at this election. Let everybody take an interest in the enterprise, and come out and vote for incorporation, for you will find it to prove the greatest step of advancement and progress that Merkel has ever taken.

S. M. Sewell.

THE FACTS IN THE CASE.

When you read a thing you like to feel that it's the truth. The Dallas Semi-Weekly News gives the facts in the case.

SPECIALLY EDITED.

If you'll read The News a while you'll like it. It holds the attention. It is specially edited, that's why. Brains and not haphazard go into the makeup of The News.

TWO PAPERS YOU NEED.

You need The Merkel Mail, because it's your local paper. It gives a class of news you can't get elsewhere. You need The News because it gives you all the State news. The Merkel Mail and The Semi-Weekly News one year for only \$1.75, cash in advance.

The News is promptly stopped at expiration of time paid for.

GOOD ADVICE.

The most miserable beings in the world are those suffering from Dyspepsia and Liver Complaint. More than seventy-five per cent of the people in the United States are afflicted with these two diseases, and their effects; such as Sour Stomach, Sick Headache, Habitual Costiveness, Palpitation of the Heart, Heart-burn, Waterbrash, Gnawing and Burning Pains at the Pit of the Stomach, Yellow Skin, Coated Tongue and Disagreeable Taste in the Mouth, Coming up of Food after eating, Low Spirits etc. Go to your Druggist and get a bottle of August Flower for 75c. Two doses will relieve you. Try it at Rust & Pittard's. Get Green's Prize Almanac.

The following is a boy's composition on "heds." "There is a lot of kinds of heds, red heds, bawled heds and so 4th. Pa he's got one. Its bawled. Ma she's longheded and Pa he's bullheded and I'm redheded and level too. The smart end of a boy is his hed except when he gets spanked but the smart end of a bee is not there. Oh no. Pa says if a feller has got a hed he can get ahead in this world but I don't want a hed like he gets one when he goes out with the boys."

P. D. Brown called around Wednesday and favored us with a cash donation.

We take pleasure in calling the attention of reader to the ad of G. F. West.

Talk That Talks...

It's nice to do business with plenty of nice, new goods and plenty of appreciative customers. We have the

Right Goods at Right Prices!

Our stock of General Merchandise is complete, and we should be glad to show and price it to you.

J. O. HAMILTON.

Big Cut In Lumber Yard!

We have moved and remodeled our old sheds, erected a new one in center of yard and have filled all with a bran new stock of Lumber, Shingles, Sash Doors, Brick, Lime, Cement Building Paper, etc.

This cut has widened our yard driveways all around, which enables us to serve as many more of our customers at the same time with the best material ever brought to Merkel.

Our Lumber is of all dimensions—short, wide and long, Thick, but dry and bright, these things it takes, you know; To make your home good tight and strong— It is to your interest to buy of Burton-Lingo.

BURTON-LINGO CO.,

Lumber Dealers

J. S. Barnes,

Manager

JEWELRY

Bought at a Discount for Cash and will be sold the same way. The largest, best assorted, and by far the cheapest in price, quality considered, ever opened for sale in the town. Call and inspect it whether you wish to buy or not.

R. B. USTICK

Fine Repairing a Specialty....