

THE MERKEL MAIL.

\$.00 PER YEAR.

DEVOTED TO THE INTERESTS OF MERKEL AND THE MERKEL COUNTRY.

EIGHT PAGES.

VOL. XIII.

MERKEL, TEXAS, MARCH 13, 1902

NO. 4.

WE ARE OPEN FOR BUSINESS....

With a Bran New Stock of the prettiest and best selected line of Dry Goods, Notions, Shoes and Hats in Merkel--all bought for Spot Cash in the best markets of the country--and you will find our store

The Right Place to get the Right Goods at the RIGHT PRICES!

We are showing Popular Styles and Standard Goods in each department of our elegant line of Staple and Fancy Dry Goods, Dress Goods, Notions, Clothing, Hats, Shoes, etc. No question about our prices being satisfactory--none can sell cheaper, quality considered.

We ask the people of Merkel and surrounding country for a liberal share of their trade, promising fair and courteous treatment and One Hundred Cents worth of Merchandise for every dollar left in our care. Come and look through our mammoth stock. No trouble to show goods.

Very truly yours,

The Star Store,

MERKEL MERCANTILE COMPANY, Props.

How to Succeed in Business.

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

Try reading The Mail.

No one knows the unbearable torture one undergoes from piles unless they are so afflicted. Tabler's Buckeye Pile Ointment is a quick, safe and painless cure. Price 50c in bottles. Tubes, 75c at F. M. Davis'.

A Triple 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. 25c. No cure--no pay.

Come and see our new mouldings. Latest styles.

W. P. Browning & Co.

When children have earache, saturate a piece of cotton with Ballard's Snow Liniment and place it in the ear. It will stop the pain quickly. Price, 25 and 50 cents at F. M. Davis'.

The Higher Life

Not Discouraged.

Presbyterians north are greatly exercised over the falling off in number of students in their theological seminaries. They say the condition is due to the fact that a few years ago the late Rev. Dr. W. C. Gray of the influential presbyterian organ of Chicago, proclaimed month in and month out that the ministry was overcrowded. The result was that young men sought other avocations. The first result was felt in the colleges which graduated last year and the year before 43 per cent. fewer students than the average who were planning to take theological courses. Now it is the seminaries that are feeling the effects. On the other hand the colleges, young men having discovered the real condition of things, are again up to the normal in students destined for these seminaries. It is a passing phenomenon, and has often occurred before, although never so pronounced.

Wealth.

The Rev. Dr. Heber Mewton, Episcopalian, New York City.

Jesus never manifested any mere antagonisms to the rich because they were rich without distinction as to the nature of their wealth, how it was obtained and how it was used. He had no class hatred. His sympathies reached out in all directions. He attained to the wisdom so

rarely won by the teacher and reformer, the wisdom of moderation, of balance, of perfect poise.

After the generations of teaching which have utterly beclouded the conceptions of Jesus it is absolutely unjust to say that there can be no such thing as a rich Christian, meaning by that that every rich man is dishonest and a hypocrite.

One Eternal.

The Rev. Dr. Parkhurst, Presbyterian, New York City.

There is only one eternal, there is only one immortal—that is God. That is the supreme fact upon which we have to lean back for infinite support. God only has in Him the power of an irrepressible and inextinguishable life. Everything else is derivative. Soul can not stand alone, except it be God's soul. Do not forget that. Man is wonderful, a mystery thrilling and inexplicable, his ways past finding out, his nature absolutely insoluble, a being so marvelous that we could easily worship him if there were no God to worship; deeper rooted, it may be, but rooted in God; in such a way drawing upon him that could we conceive of God as ceasing, that cessation would drag after it obliteration everlasting and universe.

So that man as man, considered in his separateness, is not inherently eternal, is not inherently immortal. If there is in him at any time anything that deserves to be called eternal it is because there is at that time

something which the one only eternal has mysteriously possessed him of.

Progress Toward Church Union.

From the Christian Intelligencer. We hear much less about church union nowadays than a few years ago. The effort hitherto made to unite churches separated from one another by seemingly slight barriers have so generally and constantly failed that the attempt with us to reduce the number of denominations seems to have been abandoned as hopeless. Even a modified form of union, that of federation, has failed of realization. While such has been the experience in this country, much progress has been made in Canada, Australia and even Great Britain, but the most promising and hopeful progress is making on the mission fields. Christian workers in the presence of heathenism are constrained to emphasize the central truth of our holy religion, and while the matters and beliefs which differentiate churches in Christian lands are not regarded as unimportant, it becomes apparent to missionaries that it is unnecessary and unwise to perpetuate in mission fields divisions which have had their origin in historic conditions which have ceased to exist.

Couldn't help getting a cold never cures it; but carrying home a bottle of Ballard's Horehound Syrup, and using it as directed, will cure the worst kind of cough or cold. Price, 25 and 50c at F. M. Davis'.

REAL ESTATE AND INSURANCE AGENCY.

I have applications on file in my office for from one to two sections of land within 4 to 8 miles of Merkel. Also for good farm lands anywhere in this country. If you have anything to offer, list it with me and I can probably find you a buyer.

A few good farms for sale at bargain prices, either for cash or reasonable time.

Houses and lots for sale in any part of the town. You can still get choice lots out of the Sheppard addition, and the prices are low.

I write all kinds of Deeds, Mortgages, Commercial and Negotiable Papers.

Agent for Northwestern Mutual Life Insurance Company of Milwaukee, whose assets is \$150,000,000.00.

Notary Public in office.

T. A. JOHNSON.

Office in First National Bank.

The Merkel Mail.

ED J. LEEMAN, PUBLISHER.

Published Every Thursday.

TELEPHONE NUMBERS:

Office 31
Residence 37

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

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

For Tax Assessor:
C. C. JACKSON.
(re-election.)

For County Clerk:
S. H. GARRISON.
(re-election.)

For County Attorney:
T. A. BLEDSOE.
(re-election.)
HARRY TOM KING.

For County Judge:
W. W. KIRK.
D. G. HILL.

For Tax Collector:
BAYLOR CRAWFORD.
ED DICKERSON.

For District Clerk:
V. F. WOMACK.
E. B. BYNUM.
J. A. CHAPMAN.

For Justice of Peace, Pre. 5, and
Commissioner Pre. 2:
J. J. MILLER.
(re-election.)
W. W. WHEELER.

For Hide and Animal Inspector:
ROSS G. HALL.

For Public Weigher at Merkel:
T. F. COMPTON.
T. D. WIMAN.
T. H. CHRISTOPHER.
W. H. BROWN.
G. W. DUNNING.

A Misapprehension.

Occasionally somebody breaks the silence by sneering at science as applied to farming, and declaring that common sense, experience and work are all any farmer needs. Men had been cultivating the soil by common-sense and main strength for many thousands of years before science was brought to bear upon the subject, and what was the result? The best plow was the "Cary" with an iron point and land side, and a wooden mould-board, with which the land was broken and the crop cultivated. The grain was cut with a scythe and threshed with slails or trodden out by horses or cattle, just as the Egyptians did 4000 years before. The best harrows were cut from a forked tree, and had wooden pegs for teeth. Cotton was picked from the seed by hand at the rate of a pound and

a quarter in ten hours. Thousands of acres were planted in grapes in New York and the New England States, and were abandoned because the fruit all rotted on the vines. It was thus also in Europe until science developed the fact that a mixture of bluestone, lime and water would prevent these diseases. It was already known that bluestone would destroy the spores of fungi, but it was not known that these diseases of the grape were fungus diseases until science demonstrated their true character and indicated the remedy. That section now ships train loads of grapes to all parts of the country. Fifty years ago it required an average of 32 minutes labor of a man to procure a bushel of wheat. Now, by the use of scientific tools and methods only 2.2 minutes are required. Then cotton seed was a waste product. Science has made the cotton seed crop worth \$32,000,000 to the farmers of the South. The plain meat and bread and potatoes, the almost universal diet of the American farmers fifty years ago are now made into several hundred choice foods, preserved indefinitely by purely scientific processes unknown two generations ago. The labor-saving implements that enables the farmer of to-day to grow three times as much as his father did, are constructed on scientific principles or they would not do the work. There is no class of people—no industry that has received so much benefit from applied science as farmers and farming.—Farm & Ranch.

Our new Spring goods are here.
J. T. Warren.

When is a lie not a lie? When you kiss the bruised flesh of a baby's finger and tell them it will hurt no more. When you tell the dear sick ones, looking with eager anxious eyes toward the shores of health, how bright look and how they are improving day by day. When the doctor, with happy smile, assures the patient he is on "the mend" and will soon be out. When the captain on the wide waste of a sea with a sinking ship calms the rising frantic fears till he can launch

the boats away. When the boy at the crossroads in New Jersey was asked by pursuing redcoats which way Washington went, pointed in the opposite direction. When the genius of the world weaves fiction that enriches all mankind and leads them to the highway of eternal right. Indeed the lie between the right and wrong, between truth and untruth, has puzzled mighty minds for ages.—Ex.

Mack Angus is testing the mumps this week.

Ever ready, always reliable are Cheatham's Laxative Tablets. They cure a cold quicker than any known remedy. Easy to carry, pleasant to take. Guaranteed. Price 25c.

The Mail is sorry the bachelors club has gone defunct; we expected great things out of that organization. But the boys soon caught on to the fact that they had made a blunder and were liable to be boycotted by the girls who were planning just such a move, and the second meeting of the club had neither presiding officers or members. Oh, where is thy boasted independence, young men?

A small farm well tilled is worth more to the owner than a large one managed in the ordinary way. An ideal farm home is one where every acre is made to yield its utmost for the uses of men and animals.

A GOOD RAIN.

The Firs Moisture of Any Consequence Since November.

Several good showers of rain fell here Monday night, continuing up into the next day, and the fall amounted to two inch. It was the first rain that has visited this country since the first of last November.

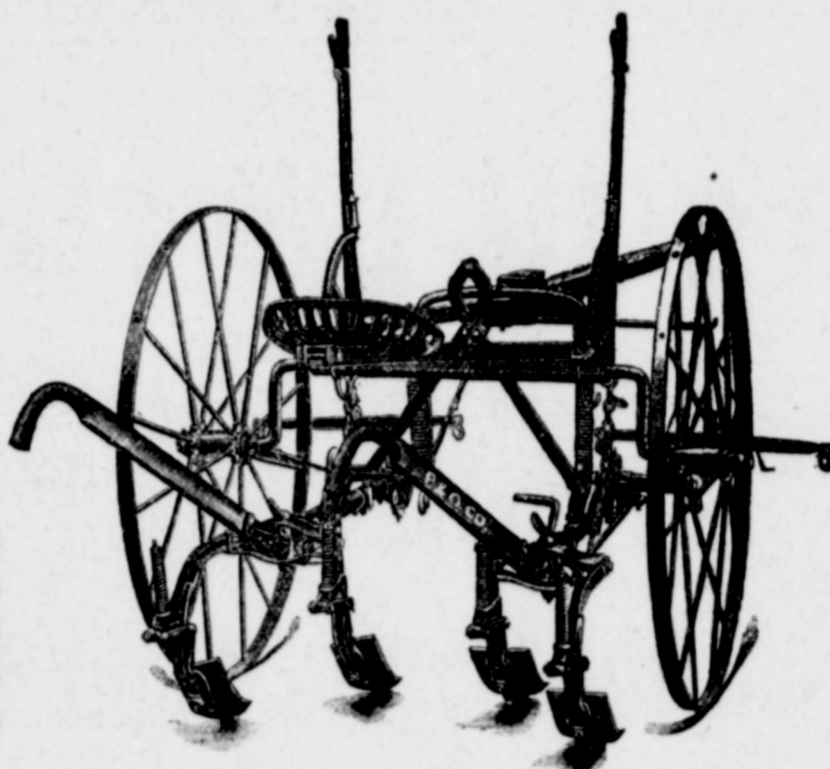
Rain was badly needed. The country had begun to suffer and all farm work was delayed, but the fall has put the ground in good shape and will enable the sowing of oats and other small grain and the planting of gardens. It is worth much to this country through the restoration of confidence if there was no other reason. The moisture will last for a month.

YOU WANT THE BEST..

When you get anything in the "P. & O. Canton Line" of Farming Implements, you get THE BEST....

...THE...
Success Sulky,
Canton Single
Row Planter,
Canton Two Row
Planter,
Victor Cultivator..

Have no equals, as evidenced by their growing popularity. We've handled these goods for 10 years because they are what the successful farmer demands--THE BEST.



We also carry a full line of...

GROCERIES,
GRAIN and
FEED.....



If you need a
BUGGY
call on us

G. F. WEST

All jewelry is good, bad or indifferent. The kind Ustick has is good—and cheap.

Would Smash the Club.

If members of the "Hay Fever Association" would use Dr. King's New Discovery for Consumption, the club would go to pieces, for it always cures this malady—and asthma, the kind that baffles the doctors—it wholly drives from the system. Thousands of once-hopeless sufferers from Consumption, pneumonia, bronchitis owe their lives and health to it. It conquers grip, saves the little ones from croup and whooping cough and is positively guaranteed for all throat and lung troubles. 50c, \$1.00. Trial bottles free at Rust & Pittard's.

The Mail reaches a class of folks that read advertisements.

If you want the best that is going in the jewelry line, cheap, see Ustick.

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, removing, 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.

For Sale or Trade.

I have a good jack for sale, medium size, 5 years old, or will trade for work stock, cattle or a good note.
2t W. M. N. Grimmet.

Chronic Diarrhoea.

Mr. C. B. Wingfield, of Fair Play, Mo., who suffered from Chronic dysentery for thirty-five years, says Chamberlain's Colic, Cholera and Diarrhoea Remedy did him more good than any other medicine he had ever used. For sale by Rust & Pittard.

See our line of Boys' Clothing with double knee and seat pants.
J. T. Warren.

Big Lot of Twins.

Mrs. Susannah Pencock, twenty-one years old, a patient of the City Hospital, has just given birth to her third set of twins. Mrs. Pencock's mother gave birth to six sets of twins, and bore twenty-four children altogether. One of Mrs. Pencock's sisters bore five pair of twins, and another sister four pairs. Thirteen more of her mother's children, Mrs. Pencock says, had three sets of twins each, or a total of thirty-nine, making fifty-seven sets of twins, or 114 children in all. Mrs. Pencock was born in Sweden.—St. Louis telegram to the New York Herald.

Mark Twain's Cousin,

G. C. Clemens, of Topeka,

Kan., the noted constitutional lawyer, who bears so striking a resemblance to Mark Twain, (Samuel B. Clemens) that he is frequently taken for the original Mark.

G. C. Clemens is a man of deep intellect and wide experience. He is considered one of the foremost lawyers in this country. In a recent letter to the Dr. Miles Medical Co., Mr. Clemens says:

"Personal experience and observation have thoroughly satisfied me that Dr. Miles' Nerve Tonic contains true merit, and is excellent for what it is recommended."



Mr. Norman Waltrip, Sup. Pres. Bankers' Fraternal Society, Chicago, says:

Dr. Miles' Pain Pills

are invaluable for headache and all pain. I had been a great sufferer from headache until I learned of the efficacy of Dr. Miles' Pain Pills. Now I always carry them and prevent recurring attacks by taking a pill when the symptoms first appear."

Sold by all Druggists. Price, 25c. per Box.
Dr. Miles Medical Co., Elkhart, Ind.

WE ARE COMING

● ● TO MERKEL ● ●

WITH A COMPLETE STOCK OF

Dry Goods, Clothing and Shoes

WATCH FOR DATE OF OPENING.

MERKEL.

THE GLOBE.

ABILENE.

Railway's Odd Offer.

The Western Algiers Railway Company has decided to offer a premium of \$20 on the birth of every child belonging to its employes. The employe with more than three children is to receive an extra allowance of \$10 per child per annum.

Doctors' Bills.

The law of Montana regulates the fees of doctors when called away from home. If they travel by rail \$1 a mile shall be the charge to the patient. A hundred miles \$100. Out of this the doctor must pay his fare.

Children's Choice in Books.

The experiment was lately tried in the New York public libraries of asking the children to vote on their favorite books. In a list of authors submitted to their consideration Horatio Alger led with 26 votes, Miss Alcott coming second with 21.

Porcelain Violins From Germany.

Germany now turns out porcelain violins and mandolins. The tone is said to be better than that of wood instruments, and they are unaffected by change of temperature. A Sissen manufacturer of ocarinas and porcelain organs is the inventor.

Roberts Out of Favor.

London Truth is authority for the statement that Lord Roberts is not in favor with those who profess to know what is going on in the British war office. He is, the wise ones say, a mere echo of Mr. Brodrick, who has taken upon himself the duties of commander-in-chief as well as the minister of war. Brave as a lion before the enemy, Lord Roberts is mere putty in the hands of Mr. Brodrick.

Showing That Perseverance Pays.

In a talk to workmen the other day Bishop Ingram, of London, said: "Human nature always reminds me of the story of the two frogs which fell into a pot of cream. One of them gave the struggle up as a bad job, and without much ado sank to the bottom. The other, striking out with all his legs, and persevering, eventually found himself resting upon a pat of butter churned by his own efforts to get his head above the level of the cream."

A Cashier From Scotland.

John G. Nairne, the recently appointed chief cashier of the Bank of England—one of the highest positions in the banking world—is a son of the late Andrew Nairne, accountant in the National bank, Castle Douglas, and a nephew of Sir Halliday Macartney. Mr. Nairne was connected with a bank in Glasgow for some time before he joined the staff of the Bank of England.

The Best is the Cheapest.

Not how cheap, but how good, is the question.

The Twice-a-Week Republic is not as cheap as are some so-called newspapers. But it is as cheap as it is possible to sell a first-class newspaper. It prints all the news that is worth printing. If you read it all the year round, you are posted on all the important and interesting affairs of the world. It is the best and most reliable newspaper that money and brains can produce—and those should be the distinguished traits of the newspaper that is designed to be read by all the members of the family.

Subscription price, \$1 a year. Any newsdealer, newspaper or postmaster will receive your subscription, or you may mail it direct to

The Republic,
St. Louis, Mo.

A Magnetic Sandbar.

The fiction of the mysterious lodestone mountain which drew the nails out of ships that approached near enough has a certain foundation in fact, says the Siecle, only the fact has suffered by expansion. On the coast of Norway, near Joedern, there is a sand dune of nearly three-quarters of a mile in length. The sand is mixed with particles of lodestone, and when a ship comes in the vicinity the compass becomes irregular, and the vessel is entangled in a kind of whirlpool and thrown ashore.

The Emperor Said It First.

It now appears that Carnegie plagiarized in choosing for his epitaph the words: "Here lies a man who knew enough to surround himself with men wiser than he." The late Emperor Frederick of Germany made a speech shortly after his father's death in which he said: "He was a great man—great especially because he knew how to surround himself with men greater than he was."

This Shows Dawson's Progress.

The growth of Dawson City is indicated by the fact that the First Methodist church of that city has called to the pastorate Rev. James Livingston, of Windsor, Ont., at a salary of \$3,000 a year and a parsonage.

"Any lady or gentleman desiring to earn a little money without any interruption to their ordinary business, write to B—, inclosing 1 shilling in stamps, and we will forward particulars." It is said that those who answer advertisements of this nature, which abound in English newspapers, sometimes receive a laconic postcard, "Do as I do."

Fine watch repairing is the kind you want. That's the kind Ustick does. Guaranteed.

Miss Ethel King returned Sunday from a visit to relatives at Melissa.

Sixteen ounces of satisfaction in every pound of Peace-Maker Flour at

J. T. Warren's.

At best life is but short. Don't make it shorter yet by rank neglect of that cough of yours, when one bottle of Simmons' Cough Syrup would cure you. Guaranteed. Price 25 and 50c.

Bumps Smith left Tuesday night, having sold his interest in the store to his partner, A. Fitts. Bumps had been sick for several months and was discouraged. He made many friends here who wish him well in whatever business he may engage.

FOR SALE.

240 acres, 7½ miles northwest of Merkel. 150 acres in cultivation, 2 good wells, 3-room house, barn, orchard, and other improvements. Price \$10.00 per acre, \$1500 cash, balance on easy terms. Apply to

T. B. Story.

We have a nice line of Go-Carts and Baby Buggies.

W. P. Browning & Co.

NOTICE.

I will do your scavenger work, clean your yard and plow your garden.

Would be glad to do your work and will appreciate it.

GEO. WORKMAN

Asthma

"One of my daughters had a terrible case of asthma. We tried almost everything, but without relief. We then tried Ayer's Cherry Pectoral, and three and one-half bottles cured her."—Emma Jane Entsminger, Langsville, O.

Ayer's Cherry Pectoral certainly cures many cases of asthma.

And it cures bronchitis, hoarseness, weak lungs, whooping-cough, croup, winter coughs, night coughs, and hard colds.

Three sizes: 25c., 50c., \$1. All druggists.

Consult your doctor. If he says take it, then do as he says. If he tells you not to take it, then don't take it. He knows. Leave it with him. We are willing. J. C. AYER CO., Lowell, Mass.

WINCHESTER

FACTORY LOADED SHOTGUN SHELLS
"New Rival" "Leader" "Repeater"

IF you are looking for reliable shotgun ammunition, the kind that shoots where you point your gun, buy Winchester Factory Loaded Shotgun Shells: "New Rival," loaded with Black powder; "Leader" and "Repeater," loaded with Smokeless. Insist upon having Winchester Factory Loaded Shells, and accept no others.
ALL DEALERS KEEP THEM

For the Annual Reunion Confederate Veterans to be held at Dallas, Texas, April 22 to 25, inclusive, 1902, the Texas & Pacific Railway Company will sell round trip tickets from stations on its line in Texas at exceedingly low rates, in fact at lower rates than have been announced to Dallas for a long time.

Tickets will be on sale from points in Texas, also Shreveport and Greenwood, La., on April 21, 22 and 23, 1902, limited for return to leave Dallas April 26, 1902.

Any one of our agents will be glad to arrange for sleeping car accommodations and explain to you any points connected with the trip, or we will be glad to have you write direct to us for further information.

H. P. Hughes, E. P. Turner,
T. P. A., G. P. A.
Ft. Worth, Tex. Dallas, Tex.

The Gambling Filipinos.

The Filipinos are not nearly as lazy as we imagine them. They are only lazy in certain times and directions. In devilment they are alert and eager. In gambling they are the most persistent race on earth, declares Victor Smith. As soon as a servant or day laborer gets a small stake he stops work and gambles to get rich quick. Monte and cock fighting are the choice methods of acquiring sudden wealth or poverty. If successful at play the Filipino (just like the American) never works more; if he loses everything he will do anything to regain his losses.

Electric Call for Carriages.

At last an electric carriage call has been devised, which is to be adopted at London theatres and other public buildings. By a simple arrangement, the number of the carriage wanted is shown in a position where it can be seen for some distance, and thus the present noisy system of shouting up and down the streets is done away with.

The little daughter of Prof. and Mrs. O. F. Chastain died yesterday evening after an illness of about three weeks, and the body was shipped to Eastland for burial. Little Emma May was an exceedingly bright and lovable child of less than three years of age. The fond parents are crushed beneath this heavy load of sorrow, but the thought that God in His infinite wisdom saw fit to transplant the lovely flower in Heaven and that He does all things for the best should be a source of comfort and consolation to them. The Mail offers its heartfelt sympathy to the bereaved ones.

The Mail had the pleasure of a chat with Rev. J. P. Copeland of Pike, Ark., mention of whose purchases in this country are to be found elsewhere. He is a scholarly gentleman and talks very interestingly of affairs in his country, with which he has had much to do in an official way he having been a member of both houses of the legislature from his district. He may decide to move here at once.

Began in a Brick Yard.

Thetus W. Sims, a representative in congress from Tennessee, was working thirty years ago in a brick yard at \$1 a day, and later wandered over the Big Bend state with the pack of a peddler on his back.

Many "Work Up."

It seems peculiarly true of great railroad men that they "work their way up." Frederick D. Underwood, who is slated for the Northern Pacific presidency, began as a brakeman on the St. Paul.

Lincoln Gave Him a Knife.

Abraham Lincoln once gave a jack-knife to a man with a face homelier than his own. That man has just died in Toronto. He was the Rev William Hastings, a distinguished preacher.

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, etc. 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 nom de plume 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.

Both the Democrats and Republicans are strenuously dodging a "paramount issue."

Senator David B. Hill has "shied his political castor into the ring," and the peculiarity of the sound reminds one of the buzzing of a Presidential bee.

A man who hugs to his ample bosom the fond delusion that he is it, will hit the ground with a dull thud. There may be other "its" in the same community.

A gentle smile has erased the wrinkles from hundreds of faces since the rain. How much of comfort there is in one little rain. It makes the whole world kin.

The President has hoisted a neutral attitude in regard to the Boers, with the very pointed stipulation that Uncle Sam can not and will not interfere in the war.

It appears now that the date for holding the primary was "spoke too quick" for the slow-gaited candidates. From the lay of the land the crop promises to be amply large, but not near so large as it would have been had the date been extended.

A doctor who suits every patient, a lawyer who suits every client, a preacher who suits every member of his flock, a merchant who suits every customer, a teacher who suits every patient, a paper which suits every subscriber—this is the first chapter in the list of impossibles.

Two more weeks until time for holding the bond election. Let the people get together on this issue, the closer the better, and make a gallant fight for it. Also let us impress upon you the importance of voting. It is a hard matter to carry any measure by a two-thirds majority, and every friend of the move should see to it that no votes are left out.

If the Dallas News wishes to do a really noble thing and one which is calculated to be of most good to the coming generation, let it take up the question of child labor, especially as used in factories throughout the south. The situation is deplorable and the facts are to be regretted. The News is in a position to be heard. It could work wonders for the coming generation.

A few of the papers are criticizing the custom of hanging the portraits of retiring governors in the capitol library, classing it as useless extravagance and a precedent that can not be consistently kept up. This has long been a custom, and it is a very beautiful one. The men who have honored the state with their gallant services deserve in turn

to be honored, and there can be no more beautiful tribute to their memory, nor one which carries with it a higher sentiment.

Old 1902 is pacing down the course at a lively gait. This is the third month of the year—the month of sand and wind—when the lion lies down with the lamb. It is the time for sowing. The buds are swelling, the flowers are lifting up their heads, the hens are cackling—but the field and garden seeds which should have been planted and ought now to be bursting from the ground, are still hanging on the wall waiting patiently for a rain. "A rain, a rain! My kingdom for a rain."

Men and Measures at Washington.

During the present session of Congress the Saturday Evening Post, of Philadelphia, will contain bi-weekly articles on National affairs by the former Postmaster-General, Honorable Charles Emory Smith.

In Men and Measures at Washington Mr. Smith will discuss the great legislative and diplomatic questions of the day, explaining the news of the week and giving a clear presentation of National policies and politics. Mr. Smith's long familiarity with public affairs, his shrewd political insight and his brilliant literary style combine to make these papers of unusual interest.

The lighter side of Washington life, the amusing happenings, the current gossip and bright sayings are found in a new department, entitled A Woman's Washington. These bright letters are by the author of The Diary of a New Congressman's Wife.

The festive candidates took possession of Merkel Saturday and made the welkin ring with their "howdy-dos," their cheery greetings and their genial good spirits. It was good to see them. At night they held the boards at the Ferrier hall and were greeted by a fairly good audience. The little guns were first put to the test, but being inexperienced were slow to avail themselves of the opportunity. Only one aspirant for weicher showed his face, Tom Wiman, who was willing to kiss every dirty-faced baby in the precinct if that would make the plum fall into his mouth.

The candidates for the other precinct offices, Miller and Wheeler, were given a turn in the engagement and acquitted themselves with honor. C. C. Jackson and Baylor Crawford, though very bashful, managed to stammer out that they wanted votes. And the candidates for district clerk said they wanted the office, too. Mr. Garrison was greeted enthusiastically. The battle royal was between candidate Kirk and Mr. Wagstaff, the latter boosting the candidacy of Judge Hill. Both grape and canister were used at close range, but the combatants came out unscathed. Then the warhorses, the two Johns, locked horns and kept the house in an uproar for an hour. Mr. Thornton intimated that his opponent was not satisfied with the big apples plucked from the Legislative halls, but wanted now to take the little nest apple which he (the speaker) had piled up for his own tooth. He wanted Mr. Tucker to go up, not come down, but how the mighty hath fallen. Mr. Tucker said it was Biblical lore that when a man had performed his duty well he should be promoted, and inasmuch as Thornton had been faithful in many

THE FIRST NATIONAL BANK

OF MERKEL

J. T. WARREN, PRES.
G. F. WEST, VICE PRES.
GEO. S. BERRY, CASHIER.
C. M. COGGIN, ASST. CASHIER.

YOUR PATRONAGE WILL BE HIGHLY APPRECIATED

CAPITAL, - \$30,000
SURPLUS, - \$ 5,000

The detail of Accounts receive the personal attention of an officer of the bank. We guarantee prompt, accurate, and economical service, and as liberal accommodations as are warranted by the account and prudent banking. Correspondence and personal interviews invited.

..NEW GOODS..

We are receiving our New Spring Goods. They embrace all the latest creations on the market, and we are pleased to announce that our stock is the largest and best selected we have ever carried. Come and see for yourself...

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 brand 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,

Mana

Only a Matter of Time.

The day must come sooner or later in this generation when no street cars drawn by horses will be seen in any part of this city. Years ago American communities of one-tenth, or even one-twentieth, of the population and wealth of New York abandoned entirely the use of horses on their tramways. How backward Gotham has been in adopting some forms of improvement!

An Algerian Pompeii.

Letters reaching Marseilles from Algiers state that the excavations carried out at Timgad, on the site of the ancient Thamugas, have brought to light a veritable Algerian "Pompeii." The boundaries of the ancient city have now been laid bare on three sides. During 1901 more than 100,000 cubic meters of earth were removed, and the archaeological results were of the richest. These include a magnificent Roman mansion belonging to Sertius, public baths, a fountain, a Byzantine basilica with three aisles, a grand staircase leading to the upper part of the theater, a superb pagan temple in marble, probably dedicated to Calestis; eleven other buildings, and a most varied collection of objects, such as arms, utensils and vases. One of the ancient gates of the city and a great number of streets have also been laid bare.

Facts as to Flushes, Etc.

Prince Henry, who spent much time before starting for this country in reading up on our geography, customs and characteristics, would have gathered much knowledge at the fountain head could he have been present at a trial which opened in New York the other day, when information of an official kind was on tap concerning the great American game of poker. It was a suit for slander in connection with a card game, and nearly a hundred talesmen were rigorously examined as to bob-tail flushes, full houses, pat hands and bluffs before the twelve jurors were secured.

This is Worse.

The placard in a clothing store window "Pants, 99 cents a leg; seats free," have been outdone by one in a tailor shop window of East London, which reads: "Dandy kickies, with wroughty buttons and an artful takedown down the sides. Cut saucy over the trotters. Half a monarch."

"General Mite" is Dead.

Flynn, the famous dwarf, better known as "General Mite," who went to England with "Tom Thumb," died at Cardiff a few days ago. He was a native of Chenango county, N. Y. He stopped growing when a year and a half old. He was 22 inches tall, was perfectly formed and displayed considerable intelligence. "General Mite" was 37 years old.

A New Tin Shop and Galvanized Iron Works.

Patronize home industry, and buy your Tinware, Well Casing, Well Buckets, Gutting, Spouting Roofing, Flues, Ventilators, Rain Proofs, Galvanized Iron Cisterns, Filters, Stock Tanks—in fact, everything usually kept in a first class Tin Shop. Repairing a Specialty.

Yours for Business,

REGISTER & BELL.

The west will soon be known as a country of large farms instead of large ranches, as heretofore. Many immense tracts of land were cut up into farms last year and the land is this year being put into cultivation. The steady demand for agricultural land has advanced the price of grazing land to a point where it is impossible to raise cattle at a profit, and the result is that the big pastures must go. Scientific means must be employed in the production of cattle if they are to pay for their salt in this country.

When you want grain or any kind of field seed, see G. M. Sharp.

Call on G. M. Sharp for cane seed and seed corn.

Are you sick? If so, investigate the merits of Herbine. It is a concentrated medicine, the dose is small, yet it quickly produces the most gratifying results, digestion improves, the lips and cheeks lose their pallor, the eye becomes bright and the step elastic. Price, 50c at F. M. Davis'.

R. B. Ustick went to Dallas on business Saturday, returning Tuesday morning.

The men who have made marked success in business have been men of nerve. The men who have become discouraged at the first bad season or when business becomes dull, have been the men who have failed. Persistent effort and success are inseparable. After a lively season of business when the dull days come on there is more reason than ever for exercising business nerve. The duller business becomes the more effort should be put in advertising a business. In this way business will be attracted to your store, for it is then the fainthearted quits hustling, and you have the advantage. It's easy to win a trade when the other fellow gives up and lays down. The man who faints by the wayside finds recovery a very slow business. Trade is sure to forget the man who forgets to solicit trade. It is fickle and requires a great deal of courting. Try regular, present, faithful, never-give-up, stick-to-it, always advertising in this paper, and half the fight for fortune will be done. Keep the stock that the public wants and treat your customers honestly and courteously, and the other half will certainly follow. Try it.—Selected.

League Program. MARCH 28, 1902.

Opening Song.
Scripture reading and prayer.
Song.
Recitation—Miss Mamie Heizer.
Select reading—Miss Laura Herring.
Song.
Quartet—Mr. and Mrs. Norton, Miss Lucy Leeman, Luther Heizer.
Recitation—Miss Sue Brown-
idg.
Select reading—Miss Nannie O'Zee.
Song.
Essay—Miss Allie Jennings.
Song.
Oration—Prof. Sewell.
Sketch from reading course—
Comer Clay.
Closing Song.

Mrs. W. W. Wheeler is at Baird this week celebrating the birth of a grandson, born to Mr. and Mrs. W. L. Johnson last week. Grandpa Wheeler is stepping around pretty lively.

Those in need of veterinary services would do well to see Herbert Browning, who has served some time in the employ of the government in his capacity. Will be here until June 1.

Carpenters are busy at work putting the Ferrier building in shape for occupancy by the Globe, which firm will take possession sometime during the month. They have already made heavy purchases for this store.

Saturday was candidates' day in Merkel and there was hardly room for anything else.

Try reading The Mail and see if you don't feel better.

For all pulmonary troubles Ballard's Horehound Syrup, taken in the early stages, proves a certain and sure specific. It is equally affective in croup and whooping cough, and if used in season prevents the further development of consumption. Price 25 and 50 cents at F. M. Davis'.

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.

Are we going back to old ways or are we just enjoying ourselves for "old time's sake?" Perhaps not since a half dozen years before have we experienced such a series of sandstorms as during the past three weeks. They have been continuous and unremitting. Thursday of last week, however, broke the record. That was a day full of—sand, and the day was not the only full thing, either; the busy housewives were full of a longing for brighter days and less sand. We can look for a continuation of the blessing until it rains, which will likely be along somewhere near April—next year.

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.

The editor of The Mail was very sick last week, the sickest we have been since a boy. It was due partially to the mumps and partially to the over taxing of mind and body during the past few months, but we hope to be back into harness again inside of a few days. Let our readers bear with us a little while, and we promise renewed efforts for the future.

Dr. J. H. C. King and Rev. Copeland, of Pike, Ark., were in Merkel prospecting Saturday. Both are well pleased with the country. Rev. Copeland bought the Chas. Hutcheson section and another adjoining it, near Stith, and is negotiating for other property near town. He is a Baptist minister and a solid, substantial citizen, as is also Dr. King, who is looking out a location for the practice of his profession, and the country would be better off if both of them should locate here.

Harry Tom King of Abilene announces this week as a candidate for County Attorney, subject to the primary election April 12. He has studied law for a number of years, is thorough in all he does in his line of work and possesses the qualifications to make an excellent official. He is a young man, having received a good education, has made a close study of his profession during a period of several years in Abilene, and if the people honor him with the office promises to make them one of the best officers the county has ever had. Give his claims a just consideration.

New Arrivals.

Big line of laces and embroideries, elegant selection ladies' shirt waists, children's and boys' clothing.

The Star Store.

Rev. Kinchen of Hico preached at the Baptist church Sunday. He is looking out a location, this being his object here, and we learn that he is favorably impressed with the town.

•ABOUT GOOD• ..CLOTHING..

...Extra Good Goods...

don't always mean extra good clothes. Depends on the way they are made.

Poor cloth cutters can ruin the finest materials. We buy from a manufactory who employ none but skilled labor, rather than letting the work by contract as some do. It is the "cut" which our ready-made clothing excels the ordinary clothing. The excellence of the fabric is brought out by the correct and fashionable "cut."

Boys' clothing expected soon.

J. T. WARREN

THE PRICE MAKER OF MERKEL

Children often inherit feeble digestive power and colic of a more or less severe character results, when food is taken which is at all difficult to digest. White's Cream Vermifuge acts as a general and permanent tonic. Price 25c at F. M. Davis'.

Onion sets, garden seed, seed potatoes, dwarf milo maize and red top cane seed at
T. J. Warren's.

Geo. S. Berry associated with the stockmen at Fort Worth Tuesday.

Ladies' Skirts and Men's Suits are the new things at J. T. Warren's. Call and see them.

The girl who uses extravagant language is often made feel cheap.

You can exchange eggs for dry goods or groceries at J. T. Warren's.

Most of the girls of this town are like cheap calico—they won't wash.

We are prepared to do all kinds of painting, roof, house, etc., and would be glad to do your work. Call at Martin's store.
3t

Workman & Munn.

Elder Barnhill of Baird moved his family here last week and has erected a photograph gallery just north of Basham's music store. He comes very highly recommended.

Highest market price paid for cotton seed. Bring them in.
G. M. Sharp.

Dr. Brown of Abilene was here prospecting Tuesday with a view to locating.

Can't Keep it Secret.

The splendid work of Dr. King's New Life Pills is daily coming to light. No such grand remedy for liver and bowel troubles was ever known before. Thousands bless them for curing constipation, sick headache, biliousness, jaundice and indigestion. Try them. 25c at Rust & Pittard's.

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

T. J. Coggin left Sunday for Fort Worth to attend the annual convention of stockmen.

The Mail neglected to chronicle, last week, the serious illness of the little son of Mr. and Mrs. T. A. Johnson. However, he is fast improving now.

J. T. Warren unloaded a 30,000 pound car of Peace-Maker flour Monday.

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.

Lockjaw from Cobwebs.

Cobwebs put on a cut lately gave a woman lockjaw. Millions know that the best thing to put on a cut is Bucklen's Arnica Salve, the infallible healer of wounds, ulcers, sores, skin eruptions, burns, scalds and piles. It cures or no pay. Only 25c at Rust & Pittard's.

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

John Sorrell's friends will be sorry to learn that he was badly injured by the explosion of a fuel tank at the Abilene oil mill Saturday night. No other damages.

Irving Jennings was in Abilene Sunday.

See G. M. Sharp for oats, free of Johnson.

We have in stock 14,000 of pipe, all sizes from 4 inches, plain and galvanized. In fact, we have more pipe than money. We will make special prices to reduce stock.

2t Elliott & Miller.

24 NICE PICTURES FOR 25c

For 10 days we will make 24 elegant Pictures for 25c. WE COPY ANY PHOTO of friends or loved ones, and put them in elegant buttons. Call and see our beautiful samples.

CHICAGO PHOTO Co.
STUDIO: ALSBROOK HOTEL
HERE FOR A SHORT TIME ONLY.

An Ideal Trading Place...

**New Goods
Arriving
Daily.
Stock is
Complete...**

People Who Trade Here

Go away Satisfied at the treatment received at our hands. They are delighted at the Prices, too, and the Quality of the Goods sold them, and are almost sure to come again.

If you are not satisfied with your present trading place, come to us. WE STRIVE TO PLEASE...

J. P. SHARP & COMPANY.

TOWN and COUNTRY.. NEWS

WEEKLY BUDGET OF HAPPENINGS THRO' OUT THE COUNTY...

ABILENE.

The grand jury adjourned this week after a brief session. They returned fifteen bills of indictment—fourteen felonies and one misdemeanor. Before adjointing they made the following report:

To the Hon. N. R. Lindsey, Judge of the 42nd Judicial District: We the grand jury, for the March term, 1902, of the district court of Taylor county, beg leave to report: That we have carefully investigated all violations of the penal statutes that have come to our knowledge and have returned fifteen bills of indictment. We have made a thorough investigation of the violations of the gaming statutes and find that this statute is being rapidly enforced and the county is practically free from such violations. We have investigated the public weights and find them correct. We did not appoint a finance committee for the reason that a finance committee was appointed at the last term of the district court. We investigated the condition at the jail and find it in good condition.

We wish to extend our thanks to our county attorney and other officers for assistance rendered us.

Respectfully,
S. J. Neal,

Foreman of Grand Jury.
P. Farr and Miss Maria J. [unclear] issued license to wed

Craig has sold his interest in the Abilene Dry Goods and Grocery Co. to Lige Davis of Jones county. Mr. Craig's fine residence was also purchased by Mr. Davis.

Judge Hill is holding a special term of district court in Eastland this week for Judge Lindsey. He will be there two or three weeks.

Elder L. A. Dale preached his farewell sermon at the Christian church Sunday night. He has accepted the position of evangelist of the Abilene district.

One of the large fuel oil tanks exploded at the cotton oil mill last Friday night and severely burned John Sorrell. The explosion was caused from gas formed in the tank and was ignited by a lantern in the hands of the wounded man.

Abilene and vicinity was blessed by a heavy rain this week.

The weather bureau recorded a precipitation of 2.18 inches.

Mr. Derstine was down from Merkel Monday on business.

Finis Lindsey and family left this morning for Brownwood, near where they have purchased a ranch.

NUBIA.

The merchants in Nubia look a great deal better since the rain Monday night.

Dr. T. S. Hollis was in Nubia Monday.

A candy breaking was given at Mr. Frank Tipton's in Nubia Saturday night. It was very much enjoyed.

I think the mumps are through in Nubia as Lee Watkins had them last. I guess he finished them up.

There were three candidates here Tuesday.

Charley Brown and family were in Nubia Saturday.

E. M. Blackburn was in Nubia Saturday.

Ross Harris was in Nubia Tuesday.

P. H. Watkins visited Lee Pribble's Sunday.

There was singing at Lee Pribble's Sunday night.

E. R. Watkins visited at S. H. Leslie's Sunday.

The Rebecca's met Saturday evening. A very large crowd attended.

ROSEBUD.

DORA.

John Holder went to Abilene Friday.

Grandpa Holt left Friday for the Territory.

J. M. Bryson visited the Canyon Friday.

Mr. Bowman and John McCoy went to the Canyon Saturday after a load of prickly pears.

Preaching Sunday by Rev. Bates of the Methodist faith.

C. B. Linn, Archie Bruce and Will Pane were down from Nolan Sunday.

Joe Bruce was here from Nolan Sunday.

Henry Porter visited Nolan Sunday evening.

Carrol Sanders, who has been sick for the past week with pneumonia, is improving, we are glad to learn.

Little Lillie Sanders, who has been sick for some time with catarrh fever, is better, we are glad to note.

The farmers are smiling over the arrival of a good rain, which was badly needed.

Tom Wyatt was up from the Canyon Sunday.

Mrs. Sewell was up from Valley Creek.

S. W. Hampton went to Merkel Tuesday.

KAT KLAU.

All itching diseases are embarrassing as well as annoying. Hunt's Cure will instantly relieve and permanently cure all forms of such diseases. Guaranteed. Price 50 cents.

Rational Treatment of Smallpox.

Dr. T. C. Osborn of Cleburne sends in the following treatment for smallpox, which is recommended by various physicians throughout the State:

The solution of warm or hot water is made with not less than 10 per cent of pulverized bichloride of mercury in a half gallon of it. With a large sponge this is to be thoroughly mopped all over the body, neglecting no part of it, twice over before stopping is the better, and the clothes pulled on while the skin is wet to disinfect them at the same time. Caution the patient to keep the eyelids closed, as the solution is severe enough to inflame the eyes if permitted to get inside the lids.

With peroxide of hydrogen spray the eyes, nose, lips, mouth, throat and ears to dislodge the germs in those cavities. Internally I give thirty grains of hypsulphite of soda in half a glass of water once a day, to disinfect the stomach and bowels and to act as a safe and gentle aperient medicine. When this course is well administered, the patient is thoroughly immunized and can not any longer convey the contagion to any one else; and if the solution is well sprinkled on the bed and covering and the rooms and seats treated in the same way there will be no necessity to burn things, as is the general custom. I permit a toddy once a day and let them eat whatever they wish.

Now, if all suspects are treated in the same way, they can not possibly take the disease, and may as well go about their usual business. It is best that the patient remain up and about. Confinement adds to the fever and encourages the violent itching of the disease. But after the solution is used, there is no longer either itching or odor, and no pockmarks may be expected.

The Dallas News a short time

ago printed the following receipt for smallpox, which was said to have been used with success sixty years ago by a physician in Germantown, Pa.:

One grain solid extract digitalis
One grain sulphate of zinc,
One-half teaspoonful of sugar,
Four ounces of water.

Dissolve the digitalis and the zinc separately, then compound the prescription. It is of the utmost importance that the solid extract of digitalis be used. Some druggists say there is no such thing and use the liquid, but this is valueless. The liquid does not produce the results. The dose is one teaspoonful every hour for twelve consecutive hours for adults; for a child under 10 the dose is one-half teaspoonful every hour for twelve consecutive hours, and for an infant 10 drops every hour for the twelve hours. Repeat every month if smallpox is epidemic. The face may be bathed with it, thus preventing scars.

The Merkel Mail has just passed the 13th mile post. It has been a regular visitor to this office from the first. Like the Gazette The Mail has passed thro' many hard struggles, but each time has come out better and on a higher plain. The Mail is a star of the higher magnitude and its usefulness can not be reconed by man; but actions speak louder than words, hence, the good it has done can be noted by the upbuilding of its town.—Midland Gazette. Thanks.

Milo Maize and Red Top Cane seed at

J. T. Warren's.

Bright Writer Dead In Japan.

Edward Howard House, whose death is announced from Japan, is well remembered as a brilliant journalist, having distinguished himself as a correspondent as well as a dramatic and musical critic, and a playwright. He was in Harper's Ferry after the John Brown raid. He went in disguise, and sent back accounts of what he saw there until his identity was suspected. He was on the scaffold with Brown.

Sultan's Diamond-Studded Auto.

An automobile just sent from London to the sultan of Turkey is of fabulous cost. The exact amount is not known, but some idea may be gained from the fact that a camera which he bought in London last year cost him \$12,000, so lavishly was it decorated with gold and gems. So far as practical use was concerned, the same article could have been purchased for \$125.

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. DAVIS.

Groceries...

I have purchased the Smith & Davis stock of Groceries, which has been added to and enlarged and is now most complete. I am in a position to save you money on your monthly bill of supplies. Give me a trial order.

'Phone 39...

C. E. DAVIS

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 awhile you'll like it. It holds the attention. It is specially edited, that's why. Brains and not hap-hazzard go into The News' make-up.

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. Subscribe now.

Music hath charms to soothe the savage breast, but Simmonds' Cough Syrup soothes any breast, if same be afflicted with coughs, colds and like troubles. Guaranteed. Price 25 and 50c.

ing a Run on Chamberlain's Cough Remedy.

Between the hours of eleven o'clock a. m. and closing time at it on Jan. 25th, 1901, A. F. [Name], druggist, Glade Springs, sold twelve bottles of Chamberlain's Cough Remedy. He says, "I never handled a medicine that sold better or gave better satisfaction to my customers." This remedy has been in general use in Virginia for many years, and the people there are well acquainted with its excellent qualities. Many of them have testified to the remarkable cures which it has affected. When you need a good, reliable medicine for a cough or cold, or attack of the grip, use Chamberlain's Cough Remedy and you are certain to be more than pleased with the quick cure which it affords. For sale by Rust & Pittard.

M. A. Marcus, proprietor of the Globe, is up from Abilene.

The rain of Monday night was pretty general except west of us, sweetwater being the limit in that direction. East it reached to Dallas and good reports come from both north and south.

Sayings from February Success.

In a more real and salutary sense, we gain the strength we overcome; poverty and difficulty and hardships, when conquered, lend the force they formerly exercised in opposition to their conqueror.

Brightness, cheerfulness, alertness, promptness and energy of attitude and bearing are things which attract attention very quickly, and secure situations where dullness and carelessness of attire, though joined, as they sometimes are, with intelligence and wisdom, make undesirable employes.

Right thinking is the foundation of right living. To live the highest life of which we, as human beings are capable, we must firmly believe and live up to our belief that we can, should, and must resolutely master our thoughts as well as our actions; and that we must control the mental pictures in which we indulge as much as the words which issue from our lips.

The man who wakes in the morning and finds the world shouting his praise, you may depend upon it, did a long, hard day's work before he lay down to undisturbed slumber the night before.

A persistent affirmation that you do possess the qualities which are necessary for your higher success, that you will develop them to their utmost strength, aids wonderfully in acquiring the desired possession.

Brooding over the evil that you have done will never correct that evil. Rather will it make possible a repetition of the thing dwelt on. Set your mind the other way. Think honest, pure, kind, courageous thoughts all the time, and your mind will have no time for their opposites.

E. Dickerson of Abilene announces this week for Tax Collector, his candidacy being subject to the Democratic primary. Mr. Dickerson is spoken of by his friends as an upright and honorable man, a good citizen and a loyal Democrat. He is well qualified to manipulate the affairs of the office and asks an earnest consideration of his candidacy.

*Phone the news to No. 31.

Hardware, Implements.

A FEW SUGGESTIONS:

I carry the best lines that money can buy. They are the best on the market. The prices are right.

A few of our specialties: Bible and Lansing Wagons, Bement Cultivators, Bement Planters, Yellow Kid Disc Plows, Bridge and Beach Stoves, Crockeryware, Queensware, Glassware, etc.

WE KNOW HOW TO APPRECIATE YOUR TRADE.....

W. H. DICKSON



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.

- Benson, Willie G
- Burk, John
- Hallmark, Miss Callie
- Heyser, J E
- Jones, Scott
- Jones, Mrs Eugenia
- Minter, Mrs Lucy
- Moore, Miss Ruby
- Moore, Miss Clara
- Peck, Dr D C
- Russell, T F
- Thornton, Mike
- Thompson, Roder
- Williamson, B M
- Walton, Mrs Patience

A brand new stock of wall paper in all the latest patterns, prices ranging from 10 cents up. Come and see.

Rust & Pittard.

Our vault equipment is modern in every respect, thus affording the greatest possible security.

We have just put in a line of boxes for taking care of our customers valuable papers. Call and make yourself familiar with this department of our bank.

The Warnick Bank.

Have you a sweet tooth? We handle Lowney's candies, all kinds and prices.

Rust & Pittard.

For catarrh and colds in the head, Hunt's Lightning Oil inhaled is a sure cure. A few drops taken internally relieves and cures cramp colic, cholera Morbus and such troubles. Guaranteed. Price 25 and 50c.

There's a young man from Dora, Who thinks he's "it" the world over,

But a young miss of Nubia, Who's real name is Ruby, Throw'd him down and now he's no more-ra.

The smallpox patients are all up and doing nicely, and the people are gratified that the disease has been stamped out. We have never had an epidemic of any nature here. During past years a few cases of scarlet fever have been prevalent here, but it has never reached the form of an epidemic. This shows that epidemics are not common to the country and that there is no danger to be feared from this source, either now or in the future.

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.

We have the finest line of Carpets and matting ever shown in the town.

W. P. Browning & Co.

To the Merchants.

We have on hand and ready for inspection a complete assortment of Fans and other advertising novelties, and a full line of Sample Calendars will soon arrive. We can supply your wants in any kind of advertising matter and at prices that can not be beaten by foreign concerns.

See our line and let us have your orders.

"How lovely," is the general expression from feminine lips after viewing our stationary department. 'Nuff said.

Rust & Pittard.

Don't Become Discouraged

But use Simmons' Liver Purifier (tin box). Many imitations of the original, so be careful and see that it's "Purifier" and manufactured by the A. C. Simmons Jr. Medicine Co.

All Danger is Past.

The Mail is authorized to announce that there will be no interruption in the progress of the public school. It has been over two weeks now since there were any exposures to the smallpox patients or the one of scarlet fever, which encourages the physicians and board of trustees to announce that comparatively all danger is over. Therefore, start your children to school again and let there be no further interruption of business or social intercourse.

We sell clothing that contributes to self-respect.

J. T. Warren's.

Try reading The Mail.

DR. JOS. H. WARNICK, PRES.
WM. H. DUNNING, CASHIER.

JOS. H. WARNICK, ...BANKER...

Capital = = \$15,000.00
Surplus and Profits \$ 1,707.53

We will appreciate your business, however small, and guarantee satisfaction to every customer. Give us a trial.

HAVE A LOOK

And you will be convinced we have the best all-around general line in the country, consisting of

- John Deere Working Plows :: Standard Disc Plows
- John Deere Sulkey Plows :: Standard Cultivators
- John Deere Cultivators :: and
- John Deere Disc Harrows :: Hancock Disc Plows

The Old Reliable

Studebaker Wagons, Are the Best.

Buggies, Phaetons, Surries and hacks.

All Grades and Kinds. We have some Genuine Bargains.

LOOK at OUR FURNITURE
COOK STOVES
HEATING STOVES
All kinds HARDWARE

Our Motto:—

Prices Below Our Competitors

...GEO. L. PAXTON, Abilene

ELLIOTT & MILLER

DEALERS IN

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

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

EASON & HILL,
(STAR STORE BUILDING.)
THE MERKEL BARBERS.
Razors sharp,
Towels clean.
Bath room in connection.
Your patronage solicited.

J. M. PATE, BARBER.
NORTH FRONT STREET.
First class work and prompt and
polite attention to all.

J. J. MILLER,
Justice Peace and Notary Public
Also fire insurance agent. Will write deeds,
take acknowledgements, pay taxes on land, fur-
nish abstracts of title and transact all other
business entrusted to him.

I. O. O. F. LODGE
No. 355 meets every Friday
night. Visiting brethren cordi-
ally invited to attend.
S. H. Basham, N.G.
T. F. Compton, Sec.

DR. T. S. HOLLIS,
THE DENTIST →
Office over Harris' Drugstore, Abilene, Texas.

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Real Estate and Insurance Agent
Notary Public
Takes Acknowledgments, Draws up Deeds, Etc.
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Residence, West Merkel.

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PASSENGER SERVICE
IN TEXAS.**
4-IMPORTANT GATEWAYS-4



NO TROUBLE TO ANSWER QUESTIONS.

*No Strateck
I learned
to use from
your Pain
Balm*

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

A Printer Greatly Surprised.
"I was never so much surpris-
ed in my life, as I was with the
results of using Chamberlain's
Pain Balm," says Henry T. Crook,
pressman of the Asheville
(N. C.) Gazette. "I contracted
a severe case of rheumatism ear-
ly last winter by getting my feet
wet. I tried several things for
it without benefit. One day
while looking over the Gazette, I
noticed that Pain Balm was
positively guaranteed to cure
rheumatism, so bought a bottle
of it and before using two thirds
of it my rheumatism had taken
its flight and I have not had a
rheumatic pain since." Sold by
Rust & Pittard.

Hunt's Cure is not a misnomer.
It does cure it, ringworm, ecze-
ma, tetter and all similar skin
diseases. A wonderful remedy.
Guaranteed. Price 50 cents.

Ann Arbor Man's Hard Luck.
Professor Mark W. Harrington,
once occupying the chair of astron-
omy at Ann Arbor, and subsequent-
ly chief of the United States
weather bureau at the national cap-
ital, is said to be working as a day
laborer in a North Pacific coast
lumber camp. Shortly after the
political changes which led to Pro-
fessor Harrington's downfall in
Washington, his health failed. In-
somnia undermined his strength and
impaired his activity. Within the
last six or eight years he has had a
variety of experiences. He was
president of the university of the
state of Washington for a year or
two, went to the Orient, where he
was overtaken by scarlet fever, and
after his return to this country
worked on a Louisiana sugar plan-
tation. Still more recently he filed a
homestead claim in the fir forests
of Washington, but instead of clear-
ing the land himself he entered the
employ of a lumber company at
Port Blakely. An Ann Arbor dis-
patch says that his outdoor life is
improving his health, conducing to
sleep and restoring his ambition.
He has hopes of returning to his old
place in the intellectual and scien-
tific world.

The Doctor's Profane Silence.
The Rev. Dr. Sterrett, of Colum-
bia university, who is very fond of
golf, was playing not long ago with
Chief Justice Harlan, so the story
goes. It was the minister's turn to
play. After carefully going over
his stock of clubs he selected one,
steadied himself and took careful
aim. After two or three prelimi-
nary waves he made a terrific
swipe—tore up about a foot of earth
—and missed the ball. He dropped
his hands to his knees and looked
steadily for fully two minutes at
the hole he had made in the ground.
Then, with a long-drawn sigh, he
raised his head. The chief justice
looked him in the face and, slowly
shaking his head, said: "Doctor,
that was the most profane silence I
ever listened to."

Now They Make Clay.
Artificial clay, according to Ger-
man papers, is receiving increased
attention abroad. The ceramic novel-
ty, which is used for the manufac-
ture of artificial stone, tiles, gutters,
etc., is composed of sand, chalk, ce-
ment, liquid glue and petroleum.
The substances are mixed in certain
quantities and a claylike mess re-
sults which can be formed at pleas-
ure and acquires an excellent degree
of hardness by being subjected to
heat.

Stole the Cornerstone.
A few days ago the mayor of Bor-
neaux laid the foundation stone of
some new buildings to be erected in
the Cours Pasteur. According to
custom several pieces of money, new
from the mint, amounting to about
15 shillings, were deposited in a
casket beneath the stone. It has
now been ascertained that these
were stolen after the ceremony, the
theft necessitating the removal of a
good deal of brick work.

An "Exposition of Woman's Work."
The Professional Woman's
League has hired Madison Square
garden, New York, for the month of
May and will give there an "exposi-
tion of woman's work," which is to
be unique by reason of its complete-
ness. The concert hall has been se-
cured to be used for theatrical per-
formance and patrons of the exposi-
tion who may want to get shaved
will be served by expert women
barbers.

The Vice of Nagging.
Clouds the happiness of the
home, but the nagging woman
often needs help. She may be
so nervous and run-down in
health that trifles annoy her. If
she is melancholy, excitable,
troubled with loss of appetite,
headache, sleeplessness, consti-
pation and fainting or dizzy
spells, she needs Electric Bitters,
the most wonderful remedy for
fainting women. Thousands of
sufferers from female troubles,
nervous troubles, backache and
weak kidneys have used it, and
become healthy and happy. Try
it. Only 50c. Rust & Pittard
guarantee satisfaction.

Lent's Effect on Business.
"Lent," said the man who poses
as a keen observer, "has a decided
effect upon various business enter-
prises. Some businesses are stimu-
lated by the penitential season, and
others are depressed. Cigar stores
and saloons are affected adversely.
Lots of men, in order to make sac-
rifices, give up either drinking or
smoking; some abstain from both.
Any tobacconist or bartender will
bear me out in this. The fashion-
able theaters suffer, and so do the
caterer. There are no balls, or
dances or supper parties in private
houses, and that cuts the caterer
out of a good thing. The florist,
though, is rather benefited by Lent,
and so is the bookseller. Young
men seem to feel it incumbent upon
them to shower flowers and books
upon the girls, in lieu of taking
them out. Confectioners also do a
good business, and as for the hotel
proprietors at fashionable resorts,
they simply reap golden harvests
during the Lenten season."

Uncle Sam's "Melting Day."
Wednesday was "melting day"
at the bureau of engraving and
printing in Washington. All the
plates, rolls and dies used in print-
ing gold and silver certificates, post-
age and revenue stamps, bonds and
postal cards during 1901 were
loaded early on two big trucks. Al-
though the precaution had been
taken to spoil the face of each plate
with a file, four strapping employes
of the treasury department rode on
each truck. A treasury committee
rode in a carriage. The procession
went to the navy yard foundry,
where the plates were unceremoni-
ously dumped into one of the fur-
naces, to come out as pig steel and
to be used for ballast for warships.
There were twenty tons of plates,
rolls and dies, from which were
printed last year \$2,200,000,000 in
gold and silver certificates of vari-
ous denominations, and \$889,000,-
000 in postage stamps, besides hun-
dreds of millions of bonds, revenue
stamps and postal cards. The en-
gravers are now at work on the
plates, rolls and dies for 1903.
Those in use now will be destroyed
next February.

Lawyer May Treat the Jury.
According to a Delaware su-
preme court decision that an attor-
ney in a case publicly "treats" mem-
bers of the jury and holds private
conversations with them will not
cause the verdict to be set aside
where the conversations are ex-
plained on oath by the attorney,
juror, and saloonkeeper, and are
shown not to have had any influence
on the verdict.

The Swiss Take to Football.
The growing popularity of foot-
ball in Switzerland is not looked
upon by the military authorities
with a very favorable eye, owing to
the fact that the young men of the
country are beginning to neglect
rifle shooting, devoting all their
spare time to the gridiron. In con-
sequence the various cadet corps are
suffering from lack of members.

All in One

The Upper part contain-
a 50-lb flour bin with sifter,
a moulding board,
a tilting sugar bin, with
close fitting lid,
three drawers, one with 6
partitions for spices.
In the lower part are
3 large drawers for table
linen, groceries, etc.
ample cupboard room for
cooking utensils. Shelves, brackets, mirror and top piece
make the Cabinet as handsome as it is convenient. It
mounted on the finest ball bearing casters. If you have a
reason to believe that your kitchen work would not be
eased and that you would not feel better and happier with
Hoosier Kitchen Cabinet than without it, won't you kind-
ly tell us what is the reason? If there is none, may we not
have your order?
Yours truly,
ED S. HUGHES & CO.
Abilene, Texas

S. W. SHEPPARD

Groceries
Vegetables
Fruits
Country
Produce
and Fresh
Meats, etc.

We sell almost
everything afford-
ed by the market,
and sell at reason-
able prices. Come
to us for your gro-
ceries....

**Now Is The Time
TO KILL PRAIRIE DOGS**

AND BASS' PRAIRIE DOG POISON is the principal
agent of extermination. It is prepared especially for
the man who does not have enough dogs to employ an
expert. It is easy to use and costs about 1c per acre for the
poison. The dogs are easier to kill this winter than usual,
and you cannot afford to neglect them. A \$1.00 bottle pois-
ons a pece of grain. Ask your druggist for it.

Bass Bros. Drug Co.
Abilene, Texas...

Liver Wrong—All Wrong. It is im-
possible to have good health with a bad liver. It is nearly as impossible to have had health with a good
liver. It may be, as you think, that the stomach, the bowels, the kidneys or the
blood causes your bad health, but the liver
is back of every one of them, and in
nine cases out of ten, if you correct
the liver you correct

Herbicine

is as sure
to correct the liver
as it is sure you have one.
Through the liver it cures Indiges-
tion, Constipation, Malaria and those ail-
ments which arise from a lack of proper digestion
and assimilation of food. At druggists, 50 cents per bottle.

**MORE LIVES ARE SAVED
...BY USING...
Dr. King's New Discovery,
...FOR...
Consumption, Coughs and Colds
Than By All Other Throat And
Lung Remedies Combined.**

This wonderful medicine positively
cures Consumption, Coughs, Colds,
Bronchitis, Asthma, Pneumonia, Hay
Fever, Pleurisy, LaGrippe, Hoarseness,
Sore Throat, Croup and Whooping
Cough. **NO CURE. NO PAY.**
Price 50c. & \$1. Trial Bottle Free.

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you get Hunt's Lightning Oil for
burns, bruises, cuts or sprains.
The most penetrating and heal-
ing liniment known. Guar-
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