

THE HESPERIAN GAZETTE.

VOL. 1.

FLOYDADA, FLOYD COUNTY, TEXAS, FRIDAY MARCH 27, 1896.

NO. 1

DIRECTORY.

DISTRICT.

D. F. Goss.....State Senator.
W. B. Plemons.....Representative.
W. B. McGill.....District Judge.
L. S. Kinder.....District Attorney.

COUNTY.

Arthur B. Duncan.....County Judge.
E. T. Miller.....County and District Clerk.
D. W. Jenkins.....Sheriff and Tax Collector.
S. B. Chadwick.....Tax Assessor.
J. C. Welch.....Treasurer.
J. W. Pruitt.....Surveyor.

COMMISSIONERS.

John Wilson.....Precinct No. 1
A. Thames.....Precinct No. 2
J. L. Crabtree.....Precinct No. 3
G. W. Evans.....Precinct No. 4

CHURCHES.

METHODIST.—Services first Sunday in each month at 11 o'clock a. m.
Rev. W. M. Adams, Pastor.
Sunday School every Sunday morning at 9:30 o'clock.
S. A. McManis, Superintendent.
Ladies' Prayer Meeting every Thursday evening at 8:30 o'clock.

DISCIPLES OF CHRIST.—Services second Sunday in each month at 11 a. m.
J. J. Day, Elder.

BAPTIST.—Services third Sunday in each month at 11 o'clock a. m.
D. N. Poole, Pastor.

COURT.

DISTRICT COURT.—Convenes at Floydada on the third Mondays after the first Mondays in February and August, and may continue in session two weeks.

COUNTY COURT.—Convenes the third Mondays in January, April, July, and October.

Commissioners' Court.—Convenes at Floydada the second Mondays in February, May, August, and November.

ARRIVAL AND DEPARTURE OF MAILS.

Amarillo mail arrives 12:00 m. and leaves 1:00 p. m., daily except Sunday.

Matador mail (tri-weekly), Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Saturdays, arrives 10:00 A. M. and leaves 1:00 P. M.

Lubbock mail (bi-weekly), Tuesdays and Fridays, arrives 10:00 A. M. and leaves 1:00 P. M.

Floydada Lodge Number 712 A. F. & A. M. meets in the Hall the first Saturday night on or after the full moon in each month at 8 o'clock P. M.

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REP. JOSEPH W. BAILEY.

He Writes a Letter to Mr. Senter Regarding Representation at Chicago.

(From the Fort Worth Gazette.)

The following private letter written by Congressman J. W. Bailey, is published by the Gazette because it is believed that the best interests of the Democratic party demand, that the facts and suggestions of serious import therein contained should be pressed upon the attention of the Democrats of Texas and of the South and West:

House of Representatives, U. S. Washington, D. C., Feb. 27, 1896
Mr. E. G. Senter, Fort Worth, Texas:

My Dear Senter—The press reports that the Mississippi legislature has adopted resolutions in which they declare that the states which are relied on to elect the Democratic nominees for president and vice-president ought to possess a controlling voice in their nomination. The Mississippi silver men assure me that their state convention will instruct their delegates to the national convention to insist upon some basis of representation like that which I suggested in my letter to Clark Howell; provided they can be certain that other states will support them in that position. I have promised them to write to you and other friends in Texas with the view of ascertaining if you think a similar resolution can be adopted by our state convention. The Arkansas, Georgia, and South Carolina members of congress are confident that their states will readily adopt our suggestion, if it is understood that the friends of silver are to press it. I believe that we owe it to ourselves to propose and insist upon some plan which shows that we are willing to abide by the will of the Democratic party when fairly expressed, and that we are unwilling to permit those states which never vote our ticket to name the ticket for which we must vote.

The political situation here in the last two or three days is generally pronounced full of uncertainty, but to my mind it is clearer than it has been at any time during the last two years. The open and bitter breach in the senate between the Northern and Northwestern Republicans leaves scarcely any room to doubt that the delegations from at least eight and perhaps twelve, states will walk out of the next Republican convention. If this should happen; it is then almost a foregone conclusion that a split will occur in the Democratic convention; for if the silver men have majority in our convention, the gold men will bolt.

The truth is that the gold standard men of the North and East who claim to be Democrats absolutely hate the free silver Democrats of the South, and apply to us the epithets of "crank" and "fanatic" very much more frequently than they do milder terms to gold standard Republicans. The Eastern press has

reached a point in its intense bitterness when it seldom speaks respectfully of any Democrat who dares to differ with it on the money question; and it deliberately endeavors to discredit and destroy the standing and influence of all Southern Democrats who advocate the free coinage of silver. Nor is this malignity confined to Eastern editors and newspaper correspondents; it permeates administration circles from the highest to the lowest.

During the last two years, Mr. Cleveland has not appointed any prominent silver Democrat to any important position; and no sensible man believes that this discrimination has been accidental. But if anybody has heretofore doubted the intention of the gold standard men to defy the decision of the Democratic convention, if it should be favorable to silver, that doubt must have been removed by the recent letter of Secretary Carlisle in reference to the senatorial situation in Kentucky. Mr. Cleveland has been nominated by a national Democratic convention three times, and neither time was he more fairly and more honestly the parties nominee for the presidency than Mr. Blackburn is the Democratic nominee for senator in Kentucky; and certainly if Mr. Carlisle would advise the gold standard recalcitrants in the Kentucky legislature to bolt the Democratic caucus nomination for senator, he would not hesitate to give the same advice in a presidential election. We are not at liberty to suppose that Mr. Carlisle wrote the letter to the Democrats in Kentucky without deliberately counting its consequences, and he must have known that the inevitable result of gold standard men bolting the party's nomination of a silver man will be to provoke retaliation on the part of the silver men against gold standard nominees. I not only believe that he knew that this would be the effect of his letter, but I also believe that he intended it to produce this effect.

I am now persuaded that it is the settled purpose of the president and his immediate friends to disrupt and reorganize the Democratic party. They probably believe that it will be a better party with the southern Democrats cut of it, and New York and New England muggumps and millionaires in it than it is to-day. The fact is that it has been a favorite project with Mr. Cleveland since he first entered public life to organize a party composed, as he phrases it, "of the best elements of both the Democratic and Republican parties," and he seems to think that "the best elements" consist of those who possess the greatest wealth and enjoy the highest social station. He is probably as honest in his opinion as I am in mine and doubtless he seeks to promote the welfare of our country as sincerely as I do, but I know that when the Democratic party ceases to be the party of the masses, and becomes the party of the classes it will cease to deserve success.

If the silver men in the south are active and vigilant we are certain to carry every southern

state except West Virginia, Maryland, Delaware and perhaps Kentucky. If we carry the other twelve southern states, they will be sufficient with those we carry in the west and middle west to give us a majority of the convention unless our adversaries resort to a system of frivolous contents, such as you suggest. To guard against this, it is the duty of our people in every state which we do carry to select men of such courage and wisdom as will render it impossible for the convention to be successfully dominated by the perpetration of fraud. Our delegates ought to be men who will keep the Chicago convention in session until election day before they will submit to having the platform and nominations forced upon Democratic states by means of fraud. If we send that kind of men to Chicago, there is no more danger of the gold standard nomination and platform than there is of Bob Ingersoll converting the Baptist church to his infidelity. We need earnestly to impress it upon our people that our delegates ought to be men who thoroughly understand the gravity of our situation, and who do not go to Chicago for a holiday or with the expectation of surrendering their principles. If you succeed in impressing this view upon our party you will increase the obligation which it already owes you.

I began this letter intending to write you only in reference to the question of representation in the national convention, and I have drifted into other matters until I have burdened you with a long letter. In conclusion, I beg to say that I shall not be surprised if great political changes occur this year, and I am uncertain what these changes will be, and whether they will be for good or evil; but there is one thing of which I am absolutely certain, and that is that whatever else may happen I intend to hold hard and fast to the great fundamental principles of Democracy.

Very truly your friend,
J. W. BAILEY

The citizens of Wichita Falls have called upon the Federal government to open up the Indian Territory to settlers. The Territory has long been the home of robbers and freebooters, and the settlers along the border are subject to depredations from the Indian Territory.

There are five candidates in the field for Congress to succeed J. V. Cockrell; viz, W. B. Plemons, of Amarillo; John H. Stephens, of Vernon; J. H. Calhoun, of Eastland; D. H. Holman, of Seymour and Judge Bowman, of Sweet Water.

Are you interested in your county and your town? Are you ready to do all you can for them? How much have you done? Do you patronize your county paper

Ponder these questions. It is just as wrongful to sin by omission as it is by commission; by inaction as by action.

—The Floyd City school closed Thursday the 5th inst. A prize fund of \$27.50 was subscribed by the patrons and friends of the school to be awarded as the trustees and the teachers directed. After giving the matter much thought it was agreed to award them on the following plan: To the student doing the best work in Mr. Hall's room, advancement department, attendance, etc., being the test, a prize of six silver dollars was to be awarded; to the second best student, four silver dollars was to be awarded; and to the third best student student, a prize of two dollars fifty cents in silver was to be awarded. In Mrs. Pruitt's room the same kind and the same number of prizes were to be awarded on the same conditions and under the same restrictions as in Mr. Hall's room. In addition to the above Dr. R. C. Andrews offered a prize of \$2.50 to the student making the greatest advancement in Dole's American Citizen class in Mr. Hall's room. At the close the following prizes were awarded: In Mr. Hall's room Miss Lena Anderson received the \$6.00 prize; Miss Emma Miller, the \$4.00 prize, and Claude Burrus, the \$2.50 prize. In Mrs. Pruitt's room Albert Hambleu received the \$6.00 prize; Blanche Terry, the \$4.00 prize; and Maude Duncan and Viola Harkey, the \$2.50 prize. In the class Dole's in American Citizen, Miss Allie Miller received the \$2.50 prize.

Lockney Items.

Lockney, Texas, March 19.

Mr. Editor: Hearing that you are going to start a paper at the county seat, I will give you a few dots from Lockney and surrounding country.

I suppose all in the county know that we had a smart norther and snow on the night of the 17th.

James A. Paker will start to Amarillo tomorrow for goods.

Mr. Lagley will soon have some new burrs for his wind grist mill, and will soon be prepared to do grinding for the public.

Candidates are getting to be plentiful now days. Messrs. Frank Anderson and Emmet Henry were in town shopping to-day.

The people around Lockney are considerably vexed with la grippe at present.

School is progressing nicely with good attendance notwithstanding la grippe.

We learn that the Grammer-Kyle Normal will move to Runningwater in the near future.

We hear that Mr. D. P. Windsor has traded his Floyd county property for Mr. O'mellar's Hale county property at Runningwater and will move there soon.

George Brewster and son are building force six miles northwest of Lockney on the Smith section.

Mr. Mapes is putting up a windmill on the Dagley section southwest of town.

Mr. Powers, of white Flat, Motley county, was in town shopping Thursday.

Mr. Robert Lynn, of Crisley county will build at Lockney in the near future. He has already bought land here.

The blacksmith and wood shop at Lockney under the management of Messrs. Stephenson and Ealy is doing a good business.

Seed sweet potatoes are selling at 75 cts per bushel at Lockney.

We hear that Esq. Allen Smith, of Floydada, will move to Lockney about the first of April.

A. G.

Hesperian Gazette.

CLAUDE V. HALL,
Editor and Proprietor.

Office of Publication, in the Carter Building near Llano Hotel.

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SUBSCRIPTION, - \$1.00 PER YEAR.

SALUTORY.

Among the many occurrences of the present year of our Lord will be the intelligence to my friends that I am no longer engaged within the dingy walls of the school room, but am seated in the sanctum of a newspaper office busying myself thinking of pleasant things to write, or standing at the case serving the trade of a "printer's devil."

It was with some reluctance that I abandoned the noble and responsible work of a pedagogue and entered the journalistic field. Whilst thus pondering over the matter, the thought occurred to my mind that I was laboring in the same field where Froebel, Pestalozzi, Mann, and Baldwin labored for humanity, and won renown for themselves; but as I turned my thoughts and viewed the other field, I remembered where the genius of Franklin achieved so much for the advancement of science and for civil liberty; where Greeley won fame; where George D. Prentice's wit, humor, satire and incisiveness made the columns of the Louisville Journal ring; where Henry W. Grady did so much towards unitizing the frigid North and the sunny South; and where Henry Watterson gained the sobriquet "Star-eyed Goddess." So after some deliberation, I chose the latter work. What will be the outcome of the new adventure my own energy, acquisitions and constancy, and the future will answer.

Having been a "printer's devil" for a while and finding the work congenial, I have since had a great desire to become the editor of some wide-awake newspaper. To a partial extent this long cherished desire is at last gratified. Being sole owner and sole editor of this journal, not owned by any set of men, with no outside restraints on me whatever, and enjoying the freedom that every other person is entitled to in this free land of ours, I am in a position to do my duty as I understand it, letting my own conscience and knowledge be the judge of my actions. My blunders—even though I may sometimes blunder—my blunders—I hope that others may blunder as rarely—my blunders will be of the head and not of the heart.

In this capacity as in all others in which I have served the public, I shall do my utmost to merit success and approbation feeling confident that I shall overcome all obstacles in my way and that my efforts will not prove fruitless and that "I will yet win the day God be willing."

I solicit the patronage of the public, which will be highly appreciated. I am, Sincerely,
CLAUDE V. HALL.

Elsewhere in this issue of the GAZETTE will be found the letter of Hon. Joseph W. Bailey, Congressman from fifth Texas district. This letter proposes for the consideration of the Texas democracy what the democracy of every state in the South and the West should gravely consider; that is, the representation from the states which we will have to rely on to elect the democratic ticket should have a controlling voice in the Democratic convention at Chicago. This plan is a just one and the democracy of the Northern and Eastern states cannot object to that which is proposed by J. W. Bailey and others. The South has never demanded anything but justice. Justice is all she still asks. Grant her this and she will be content. Her sister, the young and growing West, only asks justice. Neither of the two sections has ever sought, and do not still seek, advantage over the North and the East; nor has either ever demanded legislation detrimental to the North and the East. But the North and the East have for many decades made laws against the interest and the consent of the South and the West. It is time to call a halt. Let justice reign in every section of the Union.

The democracy should heed this suggestion and act upon it promptly.

Hon. John W. Cranford, in a recent interview states that his name will be before the people of the fourth Texas Congressional district as a candidate. It is reported that "Old Dave," will also be in the race. Mr. Culbertson has been in congress for twenty-two successive years and been extremely popular. For a long time he could triumphantly say that he could show the boys that it is a long distance to Washington. But the never-ceasing wheels of time have been moving on, and some of "the boys" are where they can see the spires of the capital city and can almost behold all the city in her magnificence. John W. Cranford is pure and honest and his ability is appreciated throughout the state and should he and Old Dave both remain in the race, it will certainly be warm.

Hon C. H. Yoakum, who represents the people of the third Texas district in Congress, gives it out that he will not stand for reelection, and that he prefers the practice of law to living a public life.

Mr. Yoakum is one of the ablest men in Congress and that body loses one of the most ardent champions of Free Silver and the cause of the people. He was district attorney in the 8th judicial district while the late Judge J. A. B. Putman presided; and, while serving in that capacity, he was a terror to lawbreakers. In 1892 he was

elect State senator, in which position he served till 1894, when he was elected to Congress to succeed Judge Kilgore.

Mr. W. M. Massie, our fellow townsman, is spoken of as a probable candidate for Representative from this district. Mr. Massie came to Floyd county in 1889 before the county was organized. He has served as county surveyor and has been, and is still, a successful real estate and livestock dealer at Floydada. Mr. Massie firmly believes that a great future awaits this country. He has had exhibits of Floyd and adjoining counties' products at the Dallas Fair for the past three years, and has returned each time well pleased with the showing the plains country made and more confirmed in his belief that this is a great country and that it has a great future. Mr. Massie is in a position to understand the needs of the people of this section.

Thousands of the populists are the greatest patriots of the land and have gone to the Populist party not because they favor the sub-treasury, Government ownership of railroads and telegraph and telephone lines, etc., but that they have lost faith in the Democratic party.

We admire the person who has convictions and has the moral courage to stand by them; but we dare not express our contempt for the person who has no opinion of his own, if he possesses a sound mind, and who cares for nothing save that he is on top.

Compromises and straddles on the great issues engaging the minds of the people belong to the defunct past. The living present demands that every party express itself through its platform in language easily understood and not capable of different constructions.

If the Democratic party does not keep her eyes open and fails to adopt a platform enunciating her time-worn principles, and heads her ticket with men who are democrats in name only, she may look for an overwhelming defeat, as she would deserve.

Words of abuse heaped upon President Cleveland, and vials of mighty wrath discharged at the Administration is not the course to pursue; but earnest, persistent work on the part of our countrymen is the true policy to correct existing evils.

When the Democracy of Texas turns herself loose the 6th of next June, Judge Rufus Hardy and his followers will say with a sigh and a look of depression. "What are we here for?"

We are informed that there are five candidates in the race for district judge of this the 50th judicial district. It seems that the judgeship of this district is a desirable position.

The loss of Greer county does not seem to weigh heavily on the minds of Texans. All seem glad that the suit is at last ended.

At Washington.

What is Going on at the Capital City.

The time is growing short, yet there is no announced Democratic candidate for president. Morrison is the only man who is allowing his friends to toy with his name. Matthews of Indiana is shying about and Vice-President Stevenson is viewing the situation with a critical eye.

Carlisle and Olney are being mentioned as administration candidates, but shrewd observers say if Mr. Cleveland deems it advisable to offer an administration he will offer himself. Just now he is devoting his efforts—and he is having his cabinet to do the same—toward attempting to fix things for the adoption of a gold platform.

He has even been led to believe that it is possible to prevent Georgia sending a free silver coinage delegation to Chicago. The Indians tell him they can prevent it.

Carlisle is to fix Kentucky and Josiah Patterson has been delegated to get Tennessee in the gold line. That twenty-two Tennessee counties have acted the other way and non for gold would not indicate much success for Patterson. And Carlisle is not capturing Kentucky as fast as he thought. Carlisle is now practically bidding for Republican votes, but they are not going to him.

Indeed the free coinage Democrats are winning all along the line. Added to the victory of the one-convention people in Georgia come unbroken successes in Tennessee and beginning of victories which are sure to come along the line in Alabama.

The free coinage Democrats in congress are growing more encouraged each day. They see

success in sight, and propose to win in the Chicago convention notwithstanding the array of office holders working on the other side.

Speaking of politics, Senator Dave Hill, who has flopped over to gold and the administration side of nearly all things, is going to Chicago at the head of the New York delegation. Hill says he is not a candidate, but he evidently proposes to be the power in that convention.

Just what he is after is not known. The same old ambition is, however, harbored in his breast.

Encouraging Words.

Below we are pleased to publish contributions sent in by friends:

As you have entered the journalistic field,
Which has furrows many and deep,
A bountiful harvest we hope it will yield;
That you may early reap
Not only a sufficiency of wealth,
But golden opinions too;
And fame and ruddy health,
And friends both tried and true.
I. 2. R.

So you have launched on the sea of journalism. May your bark outride all financial storms and anchor safely in the bay of true success.

A Friend, R. P. R.

Things To Remember.

That the world was not made in a day; that anything worth winning is worth faithful, persistent effort; that most good things come to those who labor and wait. If we cannot accomplish what we desire in one way, there are perhaps other and easier ways it can be done. We should not be discouraged if first attempts do not succeed, but look carefully for the cause of failure and with added experience renew the effort with more certainty of success. Earnest workers, having the courage of their convictions and with love for and faith in their labor, will accomplish the best work.

Attention.

I will address the people on the political issues of the day at the following times and places, viz.:

Seymour	Wednesday	April 1,	8 p. m.
Benjamin	Thursday	" 2	" "
Guthrie,	Friday	" 3	" "
Dickens,	Saturday	" 4	" "
Emma,	Monday	" 6	" "
Floydada	Tuesday	" 7	" "
Matador,	Wednesday	" 8	" "
Paducah,	Thursday	" 9	" "
Crowell,	Friday	" 10	" "

Everybody, especially the ladies are invited to attend. Will divide time with my opponents if they desire it.

John H Stephens,
Democratic candidate for Congress, 13th Congressional District of Texas.

Hesperian Gazette.

FLOYDADA, TEXAS, MAR. 27, 1896

ANNOUNCEMENT

For Sheriff and tax collector.
R. P. REEVES.

Plant trees!
Grass is here.

Oats are being sown.
The March winds blow.

Fruit trees are beginning to bloom

Esq. Allen Smith called on us this morning.

Mr. Carr gave us a pleasant call this week.

How do you like the HESPERIAN GAZETTE?

Hang your overcoat in the closet, spring is here.

Dr. Oldham left Thursday morning for his home at Albany.

T. A. Cowart of the Irick settlement, was in town Wednesday.

—Dr. Oldham, of Haskell, is stopping at the Llana this week.

—D. Y. Rainey has erected a windmill on his place northeast of town.

The Baptists will hold their next fifth Sunday meeting at the Irick school house.

R. S. Crawford, of Claude, was in town attending the meeting of the Masors this week.

Prof. W. B. Glark, of White Flat Motley county, was in town on business Wednesday.

Grandma Gardener, who has been quite sick at this place, is now up.

Rev. M. Morris, of Plainview, is here attending the gathering of Masons.

There has been a great deal of sickness of late, but no deaths have occurred.

Robert Lemmond of Lubbock was in town during the lectures at the Masonic Lodge.

J. H. F. Read returned this week from Amarillo with freight for the merchants at this place.

Miss Dot Shafer, of the Plainview Herald, assisted us in getting out this week's issue of the GAZETTE.

Mrs. Hamblem has been suffering for some time from lagrippe and neuralgia, but is now improving.

A. C. Bowers shows the public through the columns of the GAZETTE that he is doing business at Floydada.

Dr. Andrews is kept quite busy now attending patients.

Jonn Day was in town a few days ago.

Silverton is well represented at this place by persons attending the lectures at the Masonic lodge.

—J. W. Bowers left last Monday for Amarillo, from which place he will bring freight for our merchants.

Sam L. Ghalk, county surveyor of Motley county, and Mr. Meadows were in town two days this week.

—Rev. D. N. Poole was prevented from filling the pulpit at this place last Sunday by the cold weather.

Mr. Shortie Bunnels, who has been absent from this place for quite a while, is in the city.

The plains has cast aside her wintry and uninviting appearance and has come out to show her coat of green grass.

Mrs. J. D. Burlison of the Lockney Christian College has been unable to perform her work in school on account of sickness.

Quite a prairie fire south west of town last Wednesday evening. It is reported that Mr. Harold lost 3 or 4 head of cattle from the fire.

In this issue appears the advertisement of R. C. Ware's large store at Plainview. Mr. Ware always has an eye to business; hence he advertises.

Rev. W. M. Adams, pastor of the M. E. church at Floydada, will preach at the school house next Sunday at 11 o'clock on the importance of the Epworth League.

Deputy Sheriff Anderson left Thursday morning for Childress where he will bring his sister from the east, who will spend some time visiting her brother.

W. T. Montgomery left last week for Abilene, from which place he brought Mr. McCaulley who will spend four or five days lecturing at the Masonic Lodge at this place.

—V. M. Mascie returned last Saturday after several weeks' absence visiting relatives in Parker county.

—When in town call to see us, and give us the news of your community. Shylock wanted a pound of flesh, but we want news to publish as well as subscriptions and advertisements.

A friend at Lockney kindly furnished us the news of that village. We hope to have correspondents from all portions of the county.

We will gladly publish communications from persons of any political faith. This is a free land and the GAZETTE wants all to have the privilege of expressing sentiments through its columns.

The following persons from Silverton attended the lectures at the Masonic Lodge this week: G. M. Klutz, P. L. Crawford, J. R. Wright, Ed Crawford, A. J. Askey, Dr. G. F. McClenlon, Jake McClenlon, Minor Crawford and Rev. G. T. Barnes.

Rev. G. T. Barnes, formerly a resident of Floyd county but now of Silverton, Briscoe county, arrived Tuesday morning and will remain during the Masonic lectures.

—G. W. Evans, familiarly called by his many friends "Father Evans," was appointed commissioner of the 4th precinct to fill the unexpired term of R. P. Reeves, who resigned some time ago.

—Spring is almost here to gladden the hearts of farmers and stockmen. Preparations are being made for gardens, and many have planted Irish potatoes.

—Owing to the great amount of work we have had to do and our time being limited in getting out this issue, errors are unavoidable. After this our readers will have a more newsy and more neatly printed paper.

Eggs have been selling for 5 cents per dozen. They are now selling for 7 cents per dozen.

In this issue of the GAZETTE appears the announcement of Mr. R. P. Reeves as a candidate for the office of sheriff and tax collector. Mr. Reeves has had experience in this line and understands the duties incumbent upon a person serving in his capacity.

—If you find errors in this issue, please don't blame us, but kindly point them out and they will be promptly corrected. Remember that no one is infallible.

W. M. Mascie purchased a hundred and nine copies of the GAZETTE to send to parties owning land on the plains whom he represent as a real estate agent. Mr. Mascie is a man of push and energy and always advertises his business.

Uncle Dennis Rice, the promoter of the young and growing town of Runningwater, was in town last Thursday and gave us a pleasant call. He is traveling in the interest of Runningwater. He says that Runningwater will soon have a newspaper.

—We purchased the printing press and outfit belonging to the Espuela Land & Cattle Co. This is one of the best newspaper plants in this section, and we shall soon be prepared to furnish the public a bright, newsy paper. We are reasonable in our charges for space, and now is the opportunity for business men to advertise.

Teacher's Institute.

The Floyd County teachers Institute will meet at Lockney Friday and Saturday, April 24th and 25th 1896.

MORNING SESSION 9:30 SHARP

Institutes—their importance and possibilities—R. E. L. Muncy and J. W. Pruitt.

Drawing—to what extent it should be taught in the Public Schools—J. D. Burlison and Miss Lula Beasley.

How can a teacher who has all grades keep the primaries busy while the more advanced are reciting—M. C. Bryant Miss Susie Anderson and Miss Ollie Beasley.

NOON

Merits and Demerits of the Diagraming system—Mrs. J. D. Burlison, Mrs. J. W. Pruitt and Miss Fannie Wilson.

How to make U. S. History interesting to a class D. J. Thomas and Miss Cora Haney.

Methods in Arithmetic through Common Fractions—J. D. Burlison M. W. Whitlow.

SATURDAY

Some common mistakes in teaching—D. J. Thomas, Mrs. J. D. Burlison and W. W. Nelson.

Algebra Factoring—J. W. Pruitt and M. G. Bryant.

Politics of our Presidents—Claude V. Hall and R. E. L. Muncy.

NOON

Difficulties incident to a Teacher's daily work How to overcome them—J. D. Burlison, Mrs. J. W. Pruitt and Miss Cora Haney.

What studies are most valuable in cultivating the reasoning faculties—Claude V. Hall and R. E. L. Muncy.

GENERAL BUSINESS:

The object of the Institute is to bring our teachers together for interchange of ideas and experiences thus to raise the standard of our schools and improve our methods.

Every teacher in the county is considered a member of the Institute and is expected to attend the meeting and take part in the work.

Teachers from other counties are cordially invited to attend. Trustees and friends of education are invited to attend these meetings.

Most Respectfully,
ARTHUR B. DUNCAN,
co. (Ex-officio) Supt. of Public Schools.

A. C. BOWERS,

The Popular Grocer.

A Complete Stock always on Hand.

GOODS AS CHEAP AS HE CHEAPEST

New Goods Coming in All the Time.

Before Purchasing Your Supplies,

Call and Price His Goods.

Under Masonic Hall.

Floydada, - - - - Texas.

R. C. WARE,

General Merchant,

Plainview, Texas.

The War is over and Dry Goods are

Down to Bed Rock Prices. I Want Your

Trade and Propose to Make it Your In-

terest to Trade with Me.

Cotton is higher, but I am selling 20 yds. of L L Domestic for \$1.00, either bleached or unbleached. All the Staple and Fancy Calico at 5 cts. This includes the Oil Reds and Blues. Cotton Checks from 4 cents up.

I have a Full Line of Fine Dress Goods, Shoes, Slippers, laces and Everything kept in a first Class Dry goods Store.

Men's, Youth's and Boy's Clothing Cheaper than ever.

All Goods Purchased from Me will be delivered free of charge by mail hack.

COME AND TRY ME.

R. C WARE,

Plainview, - - - - Texas.

To The People of Floyd county I announce my self a candidate for Sheriff and Tax collector of Floyd county. I have lived on the border of Texas for the last 17 years and in this county since its organization. I think I understand the duties of the office and if elected will do my whole duty without fear or favor. Yours Respt
R. P. REEVES.
Floydada Texas.

The following is the result of the special election Saturday the 7th inst. to decide whether intoxicating could be sold in Floyd county or not:

Num-ber.	Voting Precinct.	For Pro-hibition.	Against Prohibition.
1	Floyd City	24	14
2	Sand Hill	8	5
3	Lockney	48	4
4	Foster's	5	0
5	Sunset	8	1
6	Fairview	10	5
7	Bouland	6	3
8	Moore's	4	5
9	Fairmount	4	1
10	Starkey	10	6
Totals		127	48

—We are desirous of making this the best newspaper on the plains, and suggestions anyone might offer will be cheerfully received and considered.

CLAUDE V. HALL, Editor.

Office of Publication, in the Carter Building near Llano Hotel.

Published Every Friday at Floydada, Floyd County, Texas.

SUBSCRIPTION. - \$1.00 PER YEAR.

LAND COM. ANDREW J. BAKER

On Leasing and Purchasing Public Land.

Austin, Texas, Feb. 19, 1896, Mr. R. T. Miller, Floydada, Texas.

Dear Sir:

I am in receipt of your letter of the 15th in which you say that Mr. J. T. Fish made application to purchase section 16, block B3, certificate 1-227, B. S. & F., and that we have rejected the application because it was leased to the Matador Land & Cattle Co. in 1893, and then you ask, that inasmuch as this lease was made under the act of 1891, which permitted an actual settler to buy grazing land under a lease, settling upon it and making improvements of the value of one-hundred dollars within four months, could not he buy under that provision? You also couple with this question, the suggestion that the law favors actual settlement as you understand it.

In reply to which, in order to clear up the question in plain terms, so that you may not be misled in what follows herein, I beg to say, that the Attorney General's Office has construed the effect of the law of 1895 to be, that it is intended to be a complete code in itself, absolutely repealing all other laws. All questions, therefore arising in the shape of new purchases or leases are controlled altogether by the provisions of the new act. This, therefore, you will understand, answers your question in the negative, as far as the Fish application is concerned. You are right, however, in your opinion that the law favors the actual settler, and so do I. But by reference to the very first section of the act of 1895, you will observe that the Commissioner is limited, in his powers to sell and lease, by the exceptions and limitations imposed by this act and the constitution. Under what conditions can a person buy lands under lease? This question is answered in section 18 of the act in the following language: "Any actual settler upon any of the lands mentioned in this act, being the head of a family, shall have the right to buy at any time not more than three additional sections of strictly pasture land, notwithstanding any leases thereof (this includes a lease under act of 1891), unless by some other actual settler, the head of a family leasing not more than three sections." Further down in the same section the limitation is increased by the use of the following language; "the settler exercising the preference right herein given to buy or lease within the enclosure of another, may so buy or lease any lands except a section on which there are improvements of the value of two-hundred dollars, or on which there is a permanent artificial water supply." It is also further limited in the same section by the following language: "Any agricultural land that may be leased by an actual settler shall be subject to sale." This last

CHRISTIAN COLLEGE,

LOCKNEY, TEXAS.

Opened Monday September the 2nd, and will continue till Friday June the 12th, 1893.

The Only Ten Months' School in Floyd and Adjoining Counties.

THOROUGH. PRACTICAL, ECONOMICAL.

J. D. BURLESON } Faculty. S. W. SMITH } Directors. SADIE BURLESON } C. W. SMITH }

The Lockney Christian College opened its first session in October, 1894, under the present management with sixteen students, and continued nine months, closing with an enrollment of forty-seven pupils.

The present session has increased twofold and is steadily growing. The faculty are teachers of unquestioned ability and many years' experience, and are devoted to the profession of teaching.

To those who have sons and daughters to educate this school offers superior inducements. Teachers whose schools have closed and who desire to raise the grade of their certificates and to prepare themselves to do better teaching and to command a higher salary will do well to attend this school.

limitation is referred to because the Attorney General's Office has construed the law to be that no agricultural land under lease is subject to sale which is clearly the law, except as stated. An actual settler under these laws is construed by the courts and the Attorney General to be one who has applied for and has purchased a school section as an actual settler and as such is in fact an actual settler. So that you will see, that one's simply settling on a section without having previously purchased it as an actual settler is not in a condition under the law to disturb an existing lease. Your client not having found himself in a position to take advantage of the law and thus interfere with the lease contract could not obtain the land applied for.

Prior to my entrance upon the duties of Commissioner, the people had been educated up or down to the idea that the Commissioner of the Land Office was possessed with some sort of kingly or imperial powers, and that he could on general principles do any thing he pleased with the school lands and therefore had the right to make rules to suit himself, thus at his pleasure to override the law. The result was, that much complaint arose by reason of these arbitrary rules. I have, therefore, from the very beginning endeavored to reverse that course and to impress upon the minds of all persons interested the knowledge of the fact that I am a democrat charged with the duties of a public trust, which trust carried along with it the conditions which are prescribed in the law alone, and that I have no power to do any thing which the law did not clearly imply, therefore could not make rules or any ruling touching the rights of persons by which they might in any manner be affected in their rights injuriously, not consistent with the provisions of the act. Some time ago some fellow up at Claude sent a dispatch to the Dallas News, saying that under the ruling of Commissioner Baker, many persons are losing their homes on which valuable improvements had been made, by leasing the lands to foreign lessees or corporations and refusing to sell them to actual settlers. I do not know what induced him to make such a barefaced statement unless he had advised his client to wait until the ninety days' preference expired and then he could buy any and avoid the payment of the back interest, and having

waited too long, the land was leased before this Office knew it was in demand for actual settlement. No lease has ever been made in this Office knowingly when there was an application here to purchase. Leases in two or three cases have been so made by mistake and as soon as my attention was called to the mistake the leases were at once cancelled and the sale made to the applicant. The fellow who made that statement made it doubtless to mollify his client by placing the wrongdoing in the Commissioner, who is using every effort in his power to administer the law fairly. Besides the intimation that I would prefer to lease land to a non-resident or do any thing else partially under the law is false. All persons in the west who have taken any notice of my public acts know that I have favored the settlement of the country. They know that I was author of the act of 1891; they know that I was particular when I was before the land committee of the last legislature to have inserted in the House bill the provision for the sale of agricultural lands, whether leased or not and yet this fellow instigated by the royal highness of the imp of darkness, and without the fear of God before his eyes, did not hesitate to throw mud on a faithful public officer and thus attempt to bring me into disrepute before the people. So sure was I, that the law provided for the sale of agricultural land under lease that I sold many sections, indeed continuing the sale of them for months, that I did not think to examine critically the law on that point till forced to do so by a gentleman in Childress county. To my astonishment, I found the provision had been left out. So important, however, was the question that I would not assume to adopt my own construction which necessarily would change the policy of every school law on the subject without being reinforced by the opinion of the Attorney General, who in a lengthy opinion concurred with my construction of the law.

Any man, who has sense enough to keep out of the lunatic cesspool would know, it was to my interest to do every thing, consistent with law, which I could possibly do to satisfy all persons having business with this Department, and it is absolutely contemptible for an up-start to attempt to satisfy any further a people who have already been educated to live on their prejudices. I hoped to live long enough

to witness the era when all men would not be regarded as mercenary, and a faithful public officer elected by the people through their partiality, who has never in his life done a material wrong knowingly to any man, might be allowed the same consideration as every honest man accords to himself, that is, that while he is liable as all men are to make mistakes, is nevertheless honest in his intentions. It seems however that I shall never outlive these low-down malicious characters. Now, my dear sir, in answering your letter I have taken the liberty to write generally touching the law and especially with regard to my personal effort here, not with a view of boring you with it, but to ask you if you desire to do so, to publish this letter for the information of many others who may feel interested.

In re reading your letter, I find that I omitted to answer your second question. One-half of section 8, block B3, certificate 1-728, lying immediately north of section 10 mentioned at the beginning of this letter, to which I presume you refer, is classified as watered grazing, and is under lease to the same company. The record here does not show which half is leased. If that can be determined by your client, I will sell the other half. Very respectfully. ANDREW J. BAKER.

PROHIBITION. ELECTION NOTICE.

Order Declaring Result of Election, Wednesday March 18, A. D. 1896.

Prohibition Election } In Commissioners Court of Floyd County, Texas, special session. On this day came on to be canvassed the returns of an election held in Floyd County, Texas, on the 7th day of March, A. D., 1896, to determine whether or not the sale of intoxicating liquors should be prohibited in said Floyd county, Texas, and it appearing to the Court that five copies of the court ordering said election were posted in said Floyd county according to law, and after opening the returns and counting the votes cast in said election at the various voting precincts in said county, the election returns being in due form of law and properly certified to by the officers holding said election, and it appearing to the Court that a majority of the votes cast at said election were for prohibition. It is therefore ordered by the Court that the result of said election be declared in favor of prohibition. And it is therefore ordered by this Court that the sale of intoxicating liquors be hereby absolutely prohibited within the limits of Floyd county, Texas, except for the purposes and under the regulations prescribed by law which are as follows to wit:

The sale of wines for sacramental purposes, and alcoholic stimulants as medicines in cases of actual sickness, but such stimulants shall only be sold upon the written prescription of a regular practicing physician, dated and signed by him, and certified on his honor that he, the physician, has personally examined the applicant, naming him, and that

he finds him actually sick and in need of the stimulant prescribed as medicine; PROVIDED that a physician who does not follow the profession of medicine as his principal and usual calling shall not be authorized to give the prescriptions provided for herein; AND PROVIDED FURTHER, that no person shall be permitted to sell more than once on the same prescription, nor shall any person be permitted to sell at all on the prescription of a physician not herein authorized to give it; nor on a prescription which is not dated, signed and certified as above required; PROVIDED, that every person selling such stimulants upon the prescription herein provided for shall cancel such prescription by indorsing thereon the word "cancelled" and file the same away.

This order to remain in full force and effect until such time as the qualified voters of said county may at a legal election, held for that purpose, by a majority vote, decide otherwise.

It is further ordered that the County Judge of Floyd county, Texas, give due notice according to law of the order of this Court declaring the result of said election and prohibiting the sale of such liquors.

The State of Texas, } I, Arthur County of Floyd, } B. Duncan, County Judge in and for Floyd County, Texas, do hereby certify the above and foregoing order of Court to be a true and correct copy of the order of the Commissioners' Court as entered of record on the 18th day of March, A. D. 1896, in Book 1, pages 366 & 367 of Commissioners' Court minutes of Floyd County, Texas, that on and after thirty days after date the above order shall be in full force and effect, of which all parties take due notice as required by law.

Given under my hand and seal of office at office in town of L. S. of Floyd City, this 18th day of March, A. D., 1896. Arthur B. Duncan, County Judge of Floyd County, Texas. ATTEST: R. T. Miller, County Clerk of Floyd County, Texas.

The Belle of 1776. BY JAMES W. MCCARTHY.

I've a sweetheart fond and dear; You all know her well, She's my pride; I love her, too, More than I can tell. When a child I learned her name At the old red school, where I set the class in rows, And daily played the fool, She is just as dear to me Now as she was then; I remember how my heart would heat like sixty when Her name was even mentioned— My very soul would rise, And I in choicest language would laud her to the skies. She had lots of lovers then; They were quite the thing; Yet I ne'er felt jealous, Though she gave them all a "ring." She is the grandest of the grand; Her praise has oft been sung; But now her "tongue" is silent— Years ago my love was "hung." * * * * * In dear old Philadelphia Lives my sweetheart fond and true; She's the lovely "belle" of liberty And you all know her, too. Gay Time may bring me others, But wherever I shall dwell, My heart of hearts will ever love THE INDEPENDENCE BELLE.

J. P. Grace

DIRECTORY.

DISTRICT.

D. F. Goss.....State Senator.
W. B. Plemons.....Representative.
W. R. McGill.....District Judge.
L. S. Kinder.....District Attorney.

COUNTY.

Arthur B. Duncan.....County Judge.
E. T. Miller.....County and District Clerk.
D. W. Jenkins.....Sheriff and Tax Collector.
S. B. Chadwick.....Tax Assessor.
J. C. Welch.....Treasurer.
J. W. Pruitt.....Surveyor.

COMMISSIONERS.

John Wilson.....Precinct No. 1
A. Thames.....Precinct No. 2
J. L. Crabtree.....Precinct No. 3
G. W. Evans.....Precinct No. 4

CHURCHES.

METHODIST.—Services first Sunday in each month at 11 o'clock a. m.
Rev. W. M. Adams, Pastor.
Sunday School every Sunday morning at 9:30 o'clock.
S. A. McManis, Superintendent.
Ladies' Prayer Meeting every Thursday evening at 8:30 o'clock.

DISCIPLES OF CHRIST.—Services second Sunday in each month at 11 a. m.
J. J. Day, Elder.

BAPTIST.—Services third Sunday in each month at 11 o'clock a. m.
D. N. Poole, Pastor.

COURT.

DISTRICT COURT.—Convenes at Floydada on the third Mondays after the first Mondays in February and August, and may continue in session two weeks.

COUNTY COURT.—Convenes the third Mondays in January, April, July, and October.

COMMISSIONERS' COURT.—Convenes at Floydada the second Mondays in February, May, August, and November.

ARRIVAL AND DEPARTURE OF MAILS.

Amarillo mail arrives 12:00 m. and leaves 1:00 p. m., daily except Sunday.

Matador mail (tri-weekly), Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Saturdays, arrives 10:00 a. m. and leaves 1:00 p. m.

Lubbock mail (bi-weekly), Tuesdays and Fridays, arrives 10:00 a. m. and leaves 1:00 p. m.

Floydada Lodge Number 712 A. F. & A. M. meets in the Hall the first Saturday night on or after the full moon in each month at 6 o'clock p. m.
R. C. ANDREWS, W. M.
W. T. MONTGOMERY, secretary.

R. C. ANDREWS,

Physician and Surgeon,

Tenders His Professional services to the Public. All Calls Attended Day or Night.

Office at Residence.

FLOYDADA, TEXAS.

W. M. MASSIE,

(Successor to Massie & Menefee)

Land and Livestock Agent,

SURVEYOR AND ABSTRACTOR.

Buy, sell, lease or exchange Land in any size tracts through western Texas, especially through Floyd and other Counties of the Beautiful Plains.

Render and Pay Taxes, Furnish Abstracts, Perfect Titles, etc.

NON-RESIDENT LANDS A SPECIALTY

Address,

W. M. MASSIE, (FLOYD COUNTY) FLOYDADA, TEXAS.

MR. JOSEPH W. BAILEY.

He Writes a Letter to Mr. Senter Regarding Representation at Chicago.

(From the Fort Worth Gazette.)

The following private letter written by Congressman J. W. Bailey, is published by the Gazette because it is believed that the best interests of the Democratic party demand, that the facts and suggestions of serious import therein contained should be pressed upon the attention of the Democrats of Texas and of the South and West:

House of Representatives, U. S. Washington, D. C., Feb. 27, 1896
Mr. E. G. Senter, Fort Worth, Texas:

My Dear Senter—The press reports that the Mississippi legislature has adopted resolutions in which they declare that the states which are relied on to elect the Democratic nominees for president and vice-president ought to possess a controlling voice in their nomination. The Mississippi silver men assure me that their state convention will instruct their delegates to the national convention to insist upon some basis of representation like that which I suggested in my letter to Clark Howell; provided they can be certain that other states will support them in that position. I have promised them to write to you and other friends in Texas with the view of ascertaining if you think a similar resolution can be adopted by our state convention. The Arkansas, Georgia, and South Carolina members of congress are confident that their states will readily adopt our suggestion, if it is understood that the friends of silver are to press it. I believe that we owe it to ourselves to propose and insist upon some plan which shows that we are willing to abide by the will of the Democratic party when fairly expressed, and that we are unwilling to permit these states which never vote our ticket to name the ticket for which we must vote.

The political situation here in the last two or three days is generally pronounced full of uncertainty, but to my mind it is clearer than it has been at any time during the last two years. The open and bitter breach in the senate between the Northern and Northwestern Republicans leaves scarcely any room to doubt that the delegations from at least eight and perhaps twelve, states will walk out of the next Republican convention. If this should happen; it is then almost a foregone conclusion that a split will occur in the Democratic convention, for if the silver men have majority in our convention, the gold men will bolt.

The truth is that the gold standard men of the North and East who claim to be Democrats absolutely hate the five silver Democrats of the South, and apply to us the epithets of "crank" and "ultra" very much more frequently than they do milder terms to gold standard Republicans. The eastern press has

reached a point in its intense bitterness when it seldom speaks respectfully of any Democrat who dares to differ with it on the money question; and it deliberately endeavors to discredit and destroy the standing and influence of all Southern Democrats who advocate the free coinage of silver. Nor is this malignity confined to Eastern editors and newspaper correspondents; it permeates administration circles from the highest to the lowest.

During the last two years, Mr. Cleveland has not appointed any prominent silver Democrat to any important position; and no sensible man believes that this discrimination has been accidental. But if anybody has heretofore doubted the intention of the gold standard men to defy the decision of the Democratic convention, if it should be favorable to silver, that doubt must have been removed by the recent letter of Secretary Carlisle in reference to the senatorial situation in Kentucky. Mr. Cleveland has been nominated by a national Democratic convention three times, and neither time was he more fairly and more honestly the parties nominee for the presidency than Mr. Blackburn is the Democratic nominee for senator in Kentucky; and certainly if Mr. Carlisle would advise the gold standard recalcitrants in the Kentucky legislature to bolt the Democratic caucus nomination for senator, he would not hesitate to give the same advice in a presidential election. We are not at liberty to suppose that Mr. Carlisle wrote the letter to the Democrats in Kentucky without deliberately counting its consequences, and he must have known that the inevitable result of gold standard men bolting the party's nomination of a silver man will be to provoke retaliation on the part of the silver men against gold standard nominees. I not only believe that he knew that this would be the effect of his letter, but I also believe that he intended it to produce this effect.

I am now persuaded that it is the settled purpose of the president and his immediate friends to disrupt and reorganize the Democratic party. They probably believe that it will be a better party with the southern Democrats out of it, and New York and New England muggumps and millionaires in it than it is to-day. The fact is that it has been a favorite project with Mr. Cleveland since he first entered public life to organize a party composed, as he phrases it, "of the best elements of both the Democratic and Republican parties," and he seems to think that "the best elements" consist of those who possess the greatest wealth and enjoy the highest social station. He is probably as honest in his opinion as I am in mine and doubtless he seeks to promote the welfare of our country as sincerely as I do, but I know that when the Democratic party ceases to be the party of the masses, and becomes the party of the classes it will cease to deserve success.

If the silver men in the south are active and vigilant we are certain to carry every southern

state except West Virginia, Maryland, Delaware and perhaps Kentucky. If we carry the other twelve southern states, they will be sufficient with those we carry in the west and middle west to give us a majority of the convention unless our adversaries resort to a system of frivolous contents, such as you suggest. To guard against this, it is the duty of our people in every state which we do carry to select men of such courage and wisdom as will render it impossible for the convention to be successfully dominated by the perpetration of fraud. Our delegates ought to be men who will keep the Chicago convention in session until election day before they will submit to having the platform and nominations forced upon Democratic states by means of fraud. If we send that kind of men to Chicago, there is no more danger of the gold standard nomination and platform than there is of Bob Ingersoll converting the Baptist church to his infidelity. We need earnestly to impress it upon our people that our delegates ought to be men who thoroughly understand the gravity of our situation, and who do not go to Chicago for a holiday or with the expectation of surrendering their principles. If you succeed in impressing this view upon our party you will increase the obligation which it already owes you.

I began this letter intending to write you only in reference to the question of representation in the national convention, and I have drifted into other matters until I have burdened you with a long letter. In conclusion, I beg to say that I shall not be surprised if great political changes occur this year, and I am uncertain what these changes will be, and whether they will be for good or evil; but there is one thing of which I am absolutely certain, and that is that whatever else may happen I intend to hold hard and fast to the great fundamental principles of Democracy.

Very truly your friend,
J. W. BAILEY

The citizens of Wichita Falls have called upon the Federal government to open up the Indian Territory to settlers. The Territory has long been the home of robbers and freebooters, and the settlers along the border are subject to depredations from the Indian Territory.

There are five candidates in the field for Congress to succeed J. V. Cockrell; viz, W. B. Plemons, of Amarillo; John H. Stephens, of Vernon; J. H. Calhoun, of Eastland; D. H. Holman, of Seymour and Judge Bowman, of Sweet Water.

Are you interested in your county and your town? Are you ready to do all you can for them? How much have you done? Do you patronize your county paper

Ponder these questions. It is just as wrongful to sin by omission as it is by commission; by inaction as by action.

—The Floyd City school closed Thursday the 5th inst. A prize fund of \$27.50 was subscribed by the patrons and friends of the school to be awarded as the trustees and the teachers directed. After giving the matter much thought it was agreed to award them on the following plan: To the student doing the best work in Mr. Hall's room, advancement department, attendance, etc., being the test, a prize of six silver dollars was to be awarded; to the second best student, four silver dollars was to be awarded; and to the third best student, a prize of two dollars fifty cents in silver was to be awarded. In Mrs. Pruitt's room the same kind and the same number of prizes were to be awarded on the same conditions and under the same restrictions as in Mr. Hall's room. In addition to the above Dr. R. C. Andrews offered a prize of \$2.50 to the student making the greatest advancement in Dole's American Citizen class in Mr. Hall's room. At the close the following prizes were awarded: In Mr. Hall's room Miss Lena Anderson received the \$6.00 prize; Miss Emma Miller, the \$4.00 prize, and Claude Burrus, the \$2.50 prize. In Mrs. Pruitt's room Albert Hambleu received the \$6.00 prize; Blanche Terry, the \$4.00 prize; and Maude Duncan and Viola Harkey, the \$2.50 prize. In the class Dole's in American Citizen Miss Allie Miller received the \$2.50 prize.

Lockney Items.

Lockney, Texas, March 19.

Mr. Editor: Hearing that you are going to start a paper at the county seat, I will give you a few dots from Lockney and surrounding country.

I suppose all in the county know that we had a smart norther and snow on the night of the 17th.

James A. Paker will start to Amarillo tomorrow for goods.

Mr. Lagley will soon have some new burrs for his wind grist mill, and will soon be prepared to do grinding for the public.

Candidates are getting to be plentiful now days Messrs. Frank Anderson and Emmet Henry were in town shopping to-day.

The people around Lockney are considerably vexed with la grippe at present.

School is progressing nicely with good attendance notwithstanding la grippe.

We learn that the Grammer-Kyle Normal will move to Runningwater in the near future.

We hear that Mr. D. P. Windsor has traded his Floyd county property for Mr. O'melias' Hale county property at Runningwater and will move there soon.

George Brewster and son are building for six miles northwest of Lockney on the Smith section.

Mr. Mapes is putting up a windmill on the Dagley section southwest of town.

Mr. Powers, of white Flat, Motley county, was in town shopping Thursday.

Mr. Robert Lynn, of Craly county will build at Lockney in the near future. He has already bought land here.

The blacksmith and wood shop at Lockney under the management of Messrs. Stephenson and Eaty is doing a good business.

Seed sweet potatoes are selling at 75 cts per bushel at Lockney.

We hear that Esq. Allen Smith, of Floydada, will move to Lockney about the first of April.

AOL

Hesperian Gazette.

CLAUDE V. HALL,

Editor and Proprietor.

Office of Publication, in the Carter Building near Llano Hotel.

Published Every Friday at Floydada, Floyd County, Texas.

SUBSCRIPTION, - \$1.00 PER YEAR.

SALUTORY.

Among the many occurrences of the present year of our Lord will be the intelligence to my friends that I am no longer engaged within the dingy walls of the school room, but am seated in the sanctum of a newspaper office busying myself thinking of pleasant things to write, or standing at the case serving the trade of a "printer's devil."

It was with some reluctance that I abandoned the noble and responsible work of a pedagogue and entered the journalistic field. Whilst thus pondering over the matter, the thought occurred to my mind that I was laboring in the same field where Froebel, Pestalozzi, Mann, and Baldwin labored for humanity, and won renown for themselves; but as I turned my thoughts and viewed the other field, I remembered where the genius of Franklin achieved so much for the advancement of science and for civil liberty; where Greeley won fame; where George D. Prentice's wit, humor, satire and incisiveness made the columns of the Louisville Journal ring; where Henry W. Grady did so much towards unitizing the frigid North and the sunny South; and where Henry Wattersox gained the sobriquet "Star-eyed Goddess." So after some deliberation, I chose the latter work. What will be the outcome of the new adventure my own energy, acquirements and constancy, and the future will answer.

Having been a "printer's devil" for a while and finding the work congenial, I have since had a great desire to become the editor of some wide-awake newspaper. To a partial extent this long cherished desire is at last gratified. Being sole owner and sole editor of this journal, not owned by any set of men, with no outside restraints on me whatever, and enjoying the freedom that every other person is entitled to in this free land of ours, I am in a position to do my duty as I understand it, letting my own conscience and knowledge be the judge of my actions. My blunders—even though I may sometimes blunder—my blunders—I hope that others may blunder as rarely—my blunders will be of the head and not of the heart.

In this capacity as in all others in which I have served the public, I shall do my utmost to merit success and approbation feeling confident that I shall overcome all obstacles in my way and that my efforts will not prove fruitless and that "I will yet win the day God be willing."

I solicit the patronage of the public, which will be highly appreciated. I am, Sincerely,
CLAUDE V. HALL.

Elsewhere in this issue of the GAZETTE will be found the letter of Hon. Joseph W. Bailey, Congressman from fifth Texas district. This letter proposes for the consideration of the Texas democracy what the democracy of every state in the South and the West should gravely consider; that is, the representation from the states which we will have to rely on to elect the democratic ticket should have a controlling voice in the Democratic convention at Chicago. This plan is a just one and the democracy of the Northern and Eastern states cannot object to that which is proposed by J. W. Bailey and others. The South has never demanded anything but justice. Justice is all she still asks. Grant her this and she will be content. Her sister, the young and growing West, only asks justice. Neither of the two sections has ever sought, and do not still seek, advantage over the North and the East; nor has either ever demanded legislation detrimental to the North and the East. But the North and the East have for many decades made laws against the interest and the consent of the South and the West. It is time to call a halt. Let justice reign in every section of the Union.

The democracy should heed this suggestion and act upon it promptly.

Hon. John W. Cranford, in a recent interview states that his name will be before the people of the fourth Texas Congressional district as a candidate. It is reported that "Old Dave" will also be in the race. Mr. Culbertson has been in congress for twenty-two successive years and been extremely popular. For a long time he could triumphantly say that he could show the boys that it is a long distance to Washington. But the never-ceasing wheels of time have been moving on, and some of "the boys" are where they can see the spires of the capital city and can almost behold all the city in her magnificence. John W. Cranford is pure and honest and his ability is appreciated throughout the state and should he and Old Dave both remain in the race, it will certainly be warm.

Hon. C. H. Yoakum, who represents the people of the third Texas district in Congress, gives it out that he will not stand for reelection, and that he prefers the practice of law to living a public life.

Mr. Yoakum is one of the ablest men in Congress and that body loses one of the most ardent champions of Free Silver and the cause of the people. He was district attorney in the 8th judicial district while the late Judge J. A. B. Putman presided; and, while serving in that capacity, he was a terror to lawbreakers. In 1892 he was

selected State senator, in which position he served till 1894, when he was elected to Congress to succeed Judge Kilgore.

Mr. W. M. Massie, our fellow-townsmen, is spoken of as a probable candidate for Representative from this district. Mr. Massie came to Floyd county in 1889 before the county was organized. He has served as county surveyor and has been, and is still, a successful real estate and livestock dealer at Floydada. Mr. Massie firmly believes that a great future awaits this country. He has had exhibits of Floyd and adjoining counties' products at the Dallas Fair for the the past three years, and has returned each time well pleased with the showing the plains country made and more confirmed in his belief that this is a great country and that it has a great future. Mr. Massie is in a position to understand the needs of the people of this section.

Thousands of the populists are the greatest patriots of the land and have gone to the Populist party not because they favor the sub-treasury, Government ownership of railroads and telegraph and telephone lines, etc., but that they have lost faith in the Democratic party.

We admire the person who has convictions and has the moral courage to stand by them; but we dare not express our contempt for the person who has no opinion of his own, if he possesses a sound mind, and who cares for nothing save that he is on top.

Compromises and straddles on the great issues engaging the minds of the people belong to the defunct past. The living present demands that every party express itself through its platform in language easily understood and not capable of different constructions.

If the Democratic party does not keep her eyes open and fails to adopt a platform enunciating her time-worn principles, and heads her ticket with men who are democrats in name only, she may look for an overwhelming defeat, as she would deserve.

Words of abuse heaped upon President Cleveland and vials of mighty wrath discharged at the Administration is not the course to pursue; but earnest, persistent work on the part of our countrymen is the true policy to correct existing evils.

When the Democracy of Texas turns herself loose the 6th of next June, Judge Rufus Hardy and his followers will say with a sigh and a look of depression. "What are we here for?"

We are informed that there are five candidates in the race for district judge of this the 50th judicial district. It seems that the judgeship of this district is a desirable position.

The loss of Greer county does not seem to weigh heavily on the minds of Texans. All seem glad that the suit is at last ended.

At Washington.

What is Going on at the Capital City.

The time is growing short, yet there is no announced Democratic candidate for president. Morrison is the only man who is allowing his friends to toy with his name. Matthews of Indiana is shying about and Vice-President Stevenson is viewing the situation with a critical eye.

Carlisle and Olney are being mentioned as administration candidates, but shrewd observers say if Mr. Cleveland deems it advisable to offer an administration he will offer himself. Just now he is devoting his efforts—and he is having his cabinet to do the same—toward attempting to fix things for the adoption of a gold platform.

He has even been led to believe that it is possible to prevent Georgia sending a free silver coinage delegation to Chicago. The Indianians tell him they can prevent it.

Carlisle is to fix Kentucky and Josiah Patterson has been delegated to get Tennessee in the gold line. That twenty-two Tennessee counties have acted the other way and non for gold would not indicate much success for Patterson. And Carlisle is not capturing Kentucky as fast as he thought. Carlisle is now practically bidding for Republican votes, but they are not going to him.

Indeed the free coinage Democrats are winning all along the line. Added to the victory of the one-convention people in Georgia come unbroken successes in Tennessee and beginning of victories which are sure to come all along the line in Alabama.

The free coinage Democrats in congress are growing more encouraged each day. They see

success in sight, and propose to win in the Chicago convention notwithstanding the array of office holders working on the other side.

Speaking of politics, Senator Dave Hill, who has flopped over to gold and the administration side of nearly all things, is going to Chicago at the head of the New York delegation. Hill says he is not a candidate, but he evidently proposes to be the power in that convention.

Just what he is after is not known. The same old ambition is, however, harbored in his breast.

Encouraging Words.

Below we are pleased to publish contributions sent in by friends:

As you have entered the journalistic field, which has furrows many and deep, A bountiful harvest we hope it will yield; That you may early reap Not only a sufficiency of wealth, But golden opinions too; And fame and ruddy health, And friends both tried and true.
I. 2. R.

So you have launched on the sea of journalism. May your bark outride all financial storms and anchor safely in the bay of true success.

A Friend, R. P. R.

Things To Remember.

That the world was not made in a day; that anything worth winning is worth faithful, persistent effort; that most good things come to those who labor and wait. If we cannot accomplish what we desire in one way, there are perhaps other and easier ways it can be done. We should not be discouraged if first attempts do not succeed; but look carefully for the cause of failure and with added experience renew the effort with more certainty of success. Earnest workers, having the courage of their convictions and with love for and faith in their labor, will accomplish the best work.

Attention.

I will address the people on the political issues of the day at the following times and places, viz.:

- Seymour Wednesday April 1, 8 p. m.
- Benjamin Thursday " 2 " "
- Guthrie, Friday " 3 " "
- Dickens, Saturday " 4 " "
- Emma, Monday " 6 " "
- Floydada Tuesday " 7 " "
- Matador, Wednesday " 8 " "
- Paducah, Thursday " 9 " "
- Crowell, Friday " 10 " "

Everybody, especially the ladies are invited to attend. Will divide time with my opponents if they desire it.

John H Stephens,
Democratic candidate for Congress, 13th congressional District of Texas.

Hesperian Gazette.

FLOYDADA, TEXAS, MAR. 27, 1896

ANNOUNCEMENT.

For Sheriff and tax collector,
R. P. REEVES.

Plant trees!
Grass is here.
Oats are being sown.
The March winds blow.
Fruit trees are beginning to bloom
Esq. Allen Smith called on us this morning.

Mr. Carr gave us a pleasant call this week.

How do you like the HESPERIAN GAZETTE?

Hang your overcoat in the closet, spring is here.

Dr. Oldham left Thursday morning for his home at Albany.

T. A. Gowart of the Irick settlement, was in town Wednesday.

—Dr. Oldham, of Haskell, is stopping at the Llana this week.

—D. Y. Rainey has erected a windmill on his place northeast of town.

The Baptists will hold their next fifth Sunday meeting at the Irick school house.

R. S. Crawford, of Claude, was in town attending the meeting of the Masors this week.

Prof. W. B. Glark, of White Flat Motley county, was in town on business Wednesday.

Grandma Gardener, who has been quite sick at this place, is now up.

Rev. M. Morris, of Plainview, is here attending the gathering of Masons.

There has been a great deal of sickness of late, but no deaths have occurred.

Robert Lemmond of Lubbock was in town during the lectures at the Masonic Lodge.

J. H. F. Read returned this week from Amarillo with freight for the merchants at this place.

Miss Dot Shafer, of the Plainview Herald, assisted us in getting out this week's issue of the GAZETTE.

Mrs. Hamblem has been suffering for some time from lagrippe and neuralgia, but is now improving.

A. C. Bowers shows the public through the columns of the GAZETTE that he is doing business at Floydada.

Dr. Andrews is kept quite busy now attending patients.

Jonn Day was in town a few days ago.

Silverton is well represented at this place by persons attending the lectures at the Masonic lodge.

—J. W. Bowers left last Monday for Amarillo, from which place he will bring freight for our merchants.

Sam L. Ghalk, county surveyor of Motley county, and Mr. Meadows were in town two days this week.

—Rev. D. N. Poole was prevented from filling the pulpit at this place last Sunday by the cold weather.

Mr. Shortie Ruaneis, who has been absent from this place for quite a while, is in the city.

The plains has cast aside her wintry and uninviting appearance and has come out to show her coat of green grass.

Mrs. J. D. Burleson of the Lockney Christian College has been unable to perform her work in school on account of sickness.

Quite a prairie fire south west of town last Wednesday evening. It is reported that Mr. Harold lost 3 or 4 head of cattle from the fire.

In this issue appears the advertisement of R. C. Ware's large store at Plainview. Mr. Ware always has an eye to business; hence he advertises.

Rev. W. M. Adams, pastor of the M. E. church at Floydada, will preach at the school house next Sunday at 11 o'clock on the importance of the Epworth League.

Deputy Sheriff Anderson left Thursday morning for Childress where he will bring his sister from the east, who will spend some time visiting her brother.

W. T. Montgomery left last week for Abilene, from which place he brought Mr. McCaulley who will spend four or five days lecturing at the Masonic Lodge at this place.

—V. M. Marsie returned last Saturday after several weeks' absence visiting relatives in Parker county.

—When in town call to see us, and give us the news of your community. Shylock wanted a pound of flesh, but we want news to publish as well as subscriptions and advertisements.

A friend at Lockney kindly furnished us the news of that village. We hope to have correspondents from all portions of the county.

We will gladly publish communications from persons of any political faith. This is a free land and the GAZETTE wants all to have the privilege of expressing sentiments through its columns

The following persons from Silverton attended the lectures at the Masonic Lodge this week: G. M. Klutz, P. L. Crawford, J. R. Wright, Ed Crawford, A. J. Askey, Dr. G. F. McClenion, Jake McClenion, Minor Crawford and Rev. G. T. Barnes.

Rev. G. T. Barnes, formerly a resident of Floyd county but now of Silverton, Briscoe county, arrived Tuesday morning and will remain during the Masonic lectures.

—G. W. Evans, familiarly called by his many friends "Father Evans," was appointed commissioner of the 4th precinct to fill the unexpired term of R. P. Reeves, who resigned some time ago.

—Spring is almost here to gladden the hearts of farmers and stockmen. Preparations are being made for gardens, and many have planted irish potatoes.

—Owing to the great amount of work we have had to do and our time being limited in getting out this issue, errors are unavoidable. After this our readers will have a more newsy and more neatly printed paper.

Eggs have been selling for 5 cents per dozen. They are now selling for 7 cents per dozen.

In this issue of the GAZETTE appears the announcement of Mr. R. P. Reeves as a candidate for the office of sheriff and tax collector. Mr. Reeves has had experience in this line and understands the duties incumbent upon a person serving in this capacity.

—If you find errors in this issue, please don't blame us, but kindly point them out and they will be promptly corrected. Remember that no one is infallible.

W. M. Mascie purchased a hundred and nine copies of the GAZETTE to send to parties owning land on the plains whom he represent as a real estate agent. Mr. Mascie is a man of push and energy and always advertises his business.

Uncle Dennis Rice, the promoter of the young and growing town of Runningwater, was in town last Thursday and gave us a pleasant call. He is traveling in the interest of Runningwater. He says that Runningwater will soon have a newspaper.

—We purchased the printing press and outfit belonging to the Espuela Land & Cattle Co. This is one of the best newspaper plants in this section, and we shall soon be prepared to furnish the public a bright, newsy paper, at a reasonable price for space, and now is the opportunity for business men to advertise.

Teacher's Institute.

The Floyd County teachers Institute will meet at Lockney Friday and Saturday, April 24th and 25th 1896.

MORNING SESSION 9:30 SHARP.

Institutes—Their Importance and possibilities—R. E. L. Muncy and J. W. Pruitt.

Drawing—To what extent it should be taught in the Public Schools—J. D. Burleson and Miss Lula Deasley.

How can a teacher who has all grades keep the primaries busy while the more advanced are reciting—M. G. Bryant Miss Susie Anderson and Miss Ollie Deasley.

NOON.

Merits and Demerits of the Diagraming system—Mrs. J. D. Burleson, Mrs. J. W. Pruitt and Miss Fannie Wilson

How to make U. S. History Interesting to a class D. J. Thomas and Miss Cora Haney.

Methods in Arithmetic through Common Fractions—J. D. Burleson M. W. Whitlow.

SATURDAY.

Some common mistakes in teaching—D. J. Thomas, Mrs. J. D. Burleson and W. W. Nelson.

Algebra Factoring—J. W. Pruitt and M. G. Bryant.

Politics of our Presidents—Claude V. Hall and R. E. L. Muncy.

NOON

Difficulties Incident to a Teacher's daily work How to overcome them—J. D. Burleson, Mrs. J. W. Pruitt and Miss Cora Haney.

What studies are most valuable in cultivating the reasoning faculties—Claude V. Hall and R. E. L. Muncy.

GENERAL BUSINESS:

The object of the Institute is to bring our teachers together for interchange of ideas and experiences thus to raise the standard of our schools and improve our methods.

Every teacher in the county is considered a member of the Institute and is expected to attend the meeting and take part in the work.

Teachers from other counties are cordially invited to attend. Trustees and friends of education are invited to attend these meetings.

Most Respectfully,
ARTHUR R. DUNCAN,
co. (Ex-officio) Supt. of Public Schools.

A. C. BOWERS,

The Popular Grocer.

A Complete Stock always on hand.

GOODS AS CHEAP AS HE CHEAPEST

New Goods Coming in All the Time.

Before Purchasing Your Supplies,

Call and Price His Goods.

Under Masonic Hall.

Floydada, - - - Texas.

R. C. WARE,

General Merchant,

Plainview, Texas.

The War is over and Dry Goods are

Down to Bed Rock Prices. I Want Your

Trade and Propose to Make it Your In-

terest to Trade with Me.

Cotton is higher, but I am selling 20 yds. of L L Domestic for \$1.00, either bleached or unbleached. All the Staple and Fancy Calico at 5 cts. This includes the Oil Reds and Blues. Cotton Checks from 4 cents up.

I have a Full Line of Fine Dress Goods, Shoes, Slippers, laces and Everything kept in a first Class Dry goods Store.

Men's, Youth's and Boy's Clothing Cheaper than ever.

All Goods Purchased from Me will be delivered free of charge by mail hack.

COME AND TRY ME.

R. C WARE,

Plainview, - - - Texas.

To The People of Floyd county I announce my self a candidate for Sheriff and Tax collector of Floyd county. I have lived on the border of Texas for the last 17 years and in this county since its organization. I think I understand the duties of the office and if elected will do my whole duty without fear or favor. Yours Respt
R. P. REEVES.
Floydada Texas.

The following is the result of the special election Saturday the 7th inst. to decide whether intoxicating could be sold in Floyd county or not:

Num-ber.	Voting Precinct.	For Pro-hibition.	Against Prohibition.
1	Floyd City	24	14
2	Sand Hill	8	5
3	Lockney	48	4
4	Foster's	5	0
5	Sunset	8	1
6	Fairview	10	5
7	Bouland	6	3
8	Moore's	4	5
9	Fairmount	4	1
10	Starkey	10	6
Totals		127	43

—We are desirous of making this the best newspaper on the plains, and suggestions anyone might offer will be cheerfully received and considered.

CLAUDE V. HALL, Editor.

Office of Publication, in the Carter Building near Llano Hotel.

Published Every Friday at Floydada, Floyd County, Texas.

SUBSCRIPTION. - \$1.00 PER YEAR.

LAND COM. ANDREW J. BAKER

On Leasing and Purchasing Public Land.

Austin, Texas, Feb. 19, 1896, Mr. R. T. Miller, Floydada, Texas.

Dear Sir:

I am in receipt of your letter of the 15th in which you say that Mr. J. T. Fish made application to purchase section 16, block B3, certificate 1-227, B. S. & F., and that we have rejected the application because it was leased to the Matador Land & Cattle Co. in 1893, and then you ask, that inasmuch as this lease was made under the act of 1891, which permitted an actual settler to buy grazing land under a lease, settling upon it and making improvements of the value of one-hundred dollars within four months, could not he buy under that provision? You also couple with this question, the suggestion that the law favors actual settlement as you understand it.

In reply to which, in order to clear up the question in plain terms, so that you may not be misled in what follows herein, I beg to say, that the Attorney General's Office has construed the effect of the law of 1895 to be, that it is intended to be a complete code in itself, absolutely repealing all other laws. All questions, therefore arising in the shape of new purchases or leases are controlled altogether by the provisions of the new act. This, therefore, you will understand, answers your question in the negative, as far as the Fish application is concerned. You are right, however, in your opinion that the law favors the actual settler, and so do I. But by reference to the very first section of the act of 1895, you will observe that the Commissioner is limited, in his powers to sell and lease, by the exceptions and limitations imposed by this act and the constitution. Under what conditions can a person buy lands under lease? This question is answered in section 18 of the act in the following language: "Any actual settler upon any of the lands mentioned in this act, being the head of a family, shall have the right to buy at any time not more than three additional sections of strictly pasture land, notwithstanding any leases thereof (this includes a lease under act of 1891), unless by some other actual settler, the head of a family leasing not more than three sections." Further down in the same section the limitation is increased by the use of the following language; "the settler exercising the preference right herein given to buy or lease within the enclosure of another, may so buy or lease any lands except a section on which there are improvements of the value of two-hundred dollars, or on which there is a permanent artificial water supply." It is also further limited in the same section by the following language: "Any agricultural land that may be leased by an actual settler shall be subject to sale." This last

1895. The Second Session 1896. OF THE

CHRISTIAN COLLEGE,

LOCKNEY, TEXAS.

Opened Monday September the 2nd, and will continue till Friday June the 12th, 1893.

The Only Ten Months' School in Floyd and Adjoining Counties.

THOROUGH, PRACTICAL, ECONOMICAL.

J. D. BURLISON } Faculty. S. W. SMITH } Directors. SADIE BURLISON } U. W. SMITH }

The Lockney Christian College opened its first session in October, 1894, under the present management with sixteen students, and continued nine months, closing with an enrollment of forty-seven pupils.

The present session has increased twofold and is steadily growing. The faculty are teachers of unquestioned ability and many years' experience, and are devoted to the profession of teaching.

To those who have sons and daughters to educate this school offers superior inducements. Teachers whose schools have closed and who desire to raise the grade of their certificates and to prepare themselves to do better teaching and to command a higher salary will do well to attend this school.

limitation is referred to because the Attorney General's Office has construed the law to be that no agricultural land under lease is subject to sale which is clearly the law, except as stated. An actual settler under these laws is construed by the courts and the Attorney General to be one who has applied for and has purchased a school section as an actual settler and as such is in fact an actual settler. So that you will see, that one's simply settling on a section without having, previously purchased it as an actual settler is not in a condition under the law to disturb an existing lease. Your client not having found himself in a position to take advantage of the law and thus interfere with the lease contract could not obtain the land applied for.

Prior to my entrance upon the duties of Commissioner, the people had been educated up or down to the idea that the Commissioner of the Land Office was possessed with some sort of kingly or imperial powers, and that he could on general principles do any thing he pleased with the school lands and therefore had the right to make rules to suit himself, thus at his pleasure to override the law. The result was, that much complaint arose by reason of these arbitrary rules. I have, therefore, from the very beginning endeavored to reverse that course and to impress upon the minds of all persons interested the knowledge of the fact that I am a democrat charged with the duties of a public trust, which trust carried along with it the conditions which are prescribed in the law above, and that I have no power to do any thing which the law did not clearly imply, therefore could not make rules or any ruling touching the rights of persons by which they might in any manner be affected in their rights injuriously, not consistent with the provisions of the act. Some time ago some fellow up at Claude sent a dispatch to the Dallas News, saying that under the ruling of Commissioner Baker, many persons are losing their homes on which valuable improvements had been made, by leasing the lands to foreign lessees or corporations and refusing to sell them to actual settlers. I do not know what induced him to make such a barefaced statement unless he had advised his client to wait until the ninety days' preference expired and then he could buy any and avoid the payment of the back interest, and having

waited too long, the land was leased before this Office knew it was in demand for actual settlement. No lease has ever been made in this Office knowingly when there was an application here to purchase. Leases in two or three cases have been so made by mistake and as soon as my attention was called to the mistake the leases were at once cancelled and the sale made to the applicant. The fellow who made that statement made it doubtless to mollify his client by placing the wrongdoing in the Commissioner, who is using every effort in his power to administer the law fairly. Besides the intimation that I would prefer to lease land to a non-resident or do any thing else partially under the law is false.

All persons in the west who have taken any notice of my public acts know that I have favored the settlement of the country. They know that I was author of the act of 1891; they know that I was particular when I was before the land committee of the last legislature to have inserted in the House bill the provision for the sale of agricultural lands, whether leased or not and yet this fellow instigated by the royal highness of the imp of darkness, and without the fear of God before his eyes, did not hesitate to throw mud on a faithful public officer and thus attempt to bring me into disrepute before the people. So sure was I, that the law provided for the sale of agricultural land under lease that I sold many sections, indeed continuing the sale of them for months, that I did not think to examine critically the law on that point till forced to do so by a gentleman in Childress county. To my astonishment, I found the provision had been left out. So important, however, was the question that I would not assume to adopt my own construction which necessarily would change the policy of every school law on the subject without being reinforced by the opinion of the Attorney General, who in a lengthy opinion concurred with my construction of the law.

Any man, who has sense enough to keep out of the lunatic system would know, it was to my interest to do every thing, consistent with law, which I could possibly do to satisfy all persons having business with this Department, and it is absolutely contemptible for an up-start to attempt to satisfy any further a people who have already been educated to live on their prejudices. I hoped to live long enough

to witness the era when all men would not be regarded as mercenary, and a faithful public officer elected by the people through their partiality, who has never in his life done a material wrong knowingly to any man, might be allowed the same consideration as every honest man accords to himself, that is, that while he is liable as all men are to make mistakes, is nevertheless honest in his intentions. It seems however that I shall never outlive these low-down malicious characters. Now, my dear sir, in answering your letter I have taken the liberty to write generally touching the law and especially with regard to my personal effort here, not with a view of boring you with it, but to ask you if you desire to do so, to publish this letter for the information of many others who may feel interested.

In re reading your letter, I find that I omitted to answer your second question. One-half of section 8, block B3, certificate 1-728, lying immediately north of section 16 mentioned at the beginning of this letter, to which I presume you refer, is classified as watered grazing, and is under lease to the same company. The record here does not show which half is leased. If that can be determined by your client, I will sell the other half. Very respectfully. ANDREW J. BAKER.

PROHIBITION.

ELECTION NOTICE.

Order Declaring Result of Election, Wednesday March 18, A. D. 1896.

Prohibition Election } In Commissioners Court of Floyd County, Texas, special session.

On this day came on to be canvassed the returns of an election held in Floyd County, Texas, on the 7th day of March, A. D., 1896, to determine whether or not the sale of intoxicating liquors should be prohibited in said Floyd county, Texas, and it appearing to the Court that five copies of the court ordering said election were posted in said Floyd county according to law, and after opening the returns and counting the votes cast in said election at the various voting precincts in said county, the election returns being in due form of law and properly certified to by the officers holding said election, and it appearing to the Court that a majority of the votes cast at said election were for prohibition. It is therefore ordered by the Court that the result of said election be declared in favor of prohibition. And it is therefore ordered by this Court that the sale of intoxicating liquors be hereby absolutely prohibited within the limits of Floyd county, Texas, except for the purposes and under the regulations prescribed by law which are as follows to wit:

The sale of wines for sacramental purposes, and alcoholic stimulants as medicines in cases of actual sickness, but such stimulants shall only be sold upon the written prescription of a regular practicing physician, dated and signed by him, and certified on his honor that he, the physician, has personally examined the applicant, naming him, and that

he finds him actually sick and in need of the stimulant prescribed as medicine; PROVIDED that a physician who does not follow the profession of medicine as his principal and usual calling shall not be authorized to give the prescriptions provided for herein; AND PROVIDED FURTHER, that no person shall be permitted to sell more than once on the same pre-

scription, nor shall any person be permitted to sell at all on the prescription of a physician not herein authorized to give it; nor on a prescription which is not dated, signed and certified as above required; PROVIDED, that every person selling such stimulants upon the prescription herein provided for shall cancel such prescription by indorsing thereon the word "cancelled" and file the same away.

This order to remain in full force and effect until such time as the qualified voters of said county may at a legal election, held for that purpose, by a majority vote, decide otherwise.

It is further ordered that the County Judge of Floyd county, Texas, give due notice according to law of the order of this Court declaring the result of said election and prohibiting the sale of such liquors.

The State of Texas, } I, Arthur County of Floyd, } B. Duncan, County Judge in and for Floyd County, Texas, do hereby certify the above and foregoing order of Court to be a true and correct copy of the order of the Commissioners' Court as entered of record on the 18th day of March, A. D. 1896, in Book 1, pages 366 & 367 of Commissioner's Court minutes of Floyd County, Texas, that on and after thirty days after date the above order shall be in full force and effect, of which all parties take due notice as required by law.

Given under my hand and seal of office at office in town of Floyd City, this 18th day of March, A. D., 1896.

Arthur B. Duncan, County Judge of Floyd County, Texas. ATTEST: R. T. Miller, County Clerk of Floyd County, Texas.

The Belle of 1776.

BY JAMES W. MCCARTHY.

I've a sweetheart fond and dear; You all know her well, She's my pride; I love her, too, More than I can tell. when a child I learned her name At the old red school, where I set the class in rows, And daily played the fool, She is just as dear to me Now as she was then; I remember how my heart would heat like sixty when Her name was even mentioned— My very soul would rise, And I in choicest language would laud her to the skies. She had lots of lovers then; They were quite the thing; Yet I ne'er felt jealous, Though she gave them all a "ring." She is the grandest of the grand; Her praise has oft been sung; But now her "tongue" is silent— Years ago my love was "hung." * * * * * In dear old Philadelphia Lives my sweetheart fond and true; She's the lovely "belle" of liberty! And you all know her, too. Gay Time may bring me others, But wherever I shall dwell, My heart of hearts will ever love THE INDEPENDENCE BELL.