



LOCAL NEWS.

THE streets are rivers of slush, and all agree are the muddiest ever known.

THE city schools will dismiss Thursday for the holidays to resume Monday Jan. 3rd.

THIS is the week in which Cupid and Santa Claus are both expected to play star engagements.

"THE Smugglers" will be the next attraction at the Grand. They are on the boards for Friday night.

THE merchant with the biggest stock of unsold holiday goods looks the bluest over the weather prospect.

PARTIES in from the country Monday report the roads in fearful condition and almost impassible in many places.

THE boys and girls attending colleges in other places will be flocking home this week for the happy Christmastide.

THE annual swearing off time will soon be round. The period of prescription which every other man anticipates on New Year almost invariably leads to excesses at Christmas.

In justice court Monday O. J. Johnson made complaint against Seth Mayfield charging abusive language and a disturbance of the peace.

THE Santa Fe management is experimenting with electric lighted cars and will probably adopt them. Their initial run with a car of this description was on Saturday night.

THE Germania Society will have their Christmas tree on Saturday night. Mr. E. H. Evers has around Monday secure contributions from the members for the festival.

R. C. HIGH left Monday for Wichita, Kansas, to spend Christmas with the old home. He will return Saturday first, bringing a carload of horses as an incidental to his trip.

ASSIGNED millinery, stock of the McGregor Sisters was sold Monday by B. Levinson, trustee. J. Pink's bid of \$175 was the highest received and the goods were knocked off at that figure. The stock invoiced about \$900.

SEVERAL Christmas numbers among our exchanges have been received. They are all pretty enough, but the principal beauty about a Christmas number is that it gives the boys a chance to enjoy the holidays when issued a week before hand.

REV. R. C. PENDER, who occupied the pulpit at the First Baptist church Sunday morning and evening, returned to Denison Monday morning. All who heard his sermons were greatly pleased with them, both as to doctrine, logic and manner of delivery.

A TENANTLESS tenant house belonging to Louis Hermann, situated three miles north of the city was destroyed by fire shortly before midnight Sunday. The origin of the fire is a mystery, but may have resulted from the carelessness of trespassing campers who had stopped there for a night's shelter.

FOR Colds, Coughs, Hoarseness and Sore-throat try a 5 cent package of our Celebrated High Drops. Sure Cure. L. Z. HARRISON, M'gr.

CHRISTMAS FIGHTS OPENED.

Lawyer Eddins and Contractor Davis Have a Little Falling Out Over a Cistern.

Mr. Orfa L. Eddins is one of the city's most prominent disciples of Blackstone. Mr. John Davis is a contractor and builder of equal celebrity in his line of work. Both are hail fellows well met with everybody, and always ready for every contingency, whether it be a fight, or a foot-race, a law suit or an estimate on the cost of erecting a building of given dimension.

This disciple of Blackstone and deliver in building stone met Monday afternoon in front of the Opera bar—on the outside, however. Mr. Eddins struck Mr. Davis where Mary wore the beads and Mr. Davis fell all over the sidewalk, across the alley and into Fischer's market. Further proceedings were stopped by mutual friends.

Sometime ago Contractor Davis constructed an underground cistern for Lawyer Eddins, under a guarantee, it is said. Mr. Eddins claims the cistern "won't hold water and is no better than a hole in the ground." This probably brought about the fight. Constable Bob Burch made the usual complaints for fighting in a public place.

THE brick work on the new livery stable which Mr. Wm. Lusk is having erected on West Main street has been sub-let by the original contractor, Mr. Wm. Griffin, to Contractor John W. Davis.

COUNTY COURT JURORS.

Jurors Good and True who will do service at the January Term.

The January term of county court convenes on the third Monday, it being the 17th day of the month.

Jury Commissioners Aug. Pflughaupt, J. T. Hardy and R. M. Mackey, have drawn the following citizens to do jury service for the term:

Oliver Barton, Gay Hill; Chas. Holle, Berlin; Julius Grager, Palm's Store; Wm. Lampe, Brenham; James Fair, Chappell Hill; R. W. Tarver, Sr., Gay Hill; Wm. Roehr, Mill Creek; R. J. Moore, Sr., Washington; Braxton Carter, Gay Hill; Joe Morgan, G. P. Isaacs, A. Dunlap, Brenham.

The Test Satisfactory.

The official test of the Warren induction alternating dynamo made Saturday night and Sunday by the Brenham Compress, Oil and Manufacturing Co., was in every respect satisfactory. The machine was built to carry 3000 incandescent lights. It was tested to a capacity of 4,500, or one-third overtax, and stood the strain perfectly. The result of the test will be tabulated by Mr. J. R. Cox, the Galveston expert, and forwarded here in a day or so. The management of the light plant is not only pleased but delighted with the machine.

MISS ZEPHA CROZIER, who is teaching music at Yoakum, is at home for the holidays. Referring to her departure from Yoakum the Herald of that city says: "Miss Zepha Crozier, the nightingale of south Texas, left today to spend the holidays with the home folks at Brenham. Miss Crozier has been visiting in Yoakum for the past four months and has become a very popular member of Yoakum's social circle. As a singer she has few equals, and her services are much sought for among the various church choirs. Her host of friends will be glad to know that she will return here early in January."

SECTION No. 239, E. R. K. of P. held its annual meeting Monday afternoon. The old officers were re-elected:

R. T. Jaeggli, President. Aug. Lindemann, Vice Pres. H. C. Heine, Secretary and Treasurer.

A DIVORCE WANTED.

An Unsuccessful Attempt on the Part of Christian Stegemueller to Get Rid of his Wife.

There is trouble in the household of Christian Stegemueller, Esq., an Independence Benedict. Chris. and his wife are at cross purposes and so far all efforts to patch up a truce in the domestic wrangle have been worse than unavailing. The affection which husband and wife entertain for each other is not of any considerable warmth. This statement, tho' must not be taken to mean that they do not "make it warm" for each other. In fact the reverse is the case. No breath of frigidty has ever been allowed to congeal the temperature of their conjugality, which for several months has registered 100 in the shade. Despite the icy blasts of bleak December they have continued to reside in the torrid zone, and the fires kindled at Hymen's altar have never been allowed to languish. Finally the courts have been called on to pour judicial kerosene on the troubled waters occasioned by the domestic temperature. But, to use a homely proverb, the party of the first part, the liege lord of conjugal creation has succeeded in "jumping out of the frying pan into the fire." And the judicial kerosene above referred to has added fuel to the flames instead of cooling the glowing embers of domestic wrath.

Monday Christian, whose sir name is Stegemueller, made an affidavit in which he alleged that his wife was non composmentis, and ought to be safely housed in one of the States eleemosynary institutions. The case came on to be heard before Judge E. P. Curry and six jurors, good and true. Preliminary to the trial the defendant was brought into court and called on for a statement. What she had to say knocked the scales of justice out of plum. All she wanted, she said, was a divorce, and this the jury would doubtless have given her had they been trying a divorce case. She gave a detailed account of the treatment and mistreatment accorded her by her husband; of his infelicity and infidelity; how he had often used epithets towards her of anything but an endearing nature and engaged in other unseemly conduct not necessary here to specify; how he had deserted her for another. The jury was satisfied fully of two things without hearing any further evidence. That she was perfectly sane, but had been sufficiently harrassed to have legitimate grounds for insanity. The complaint was withdrawn and the defendant discharged.

THE Sunday edition of the Houston Post, its Christmas number, was a triumph in the art preservative of which the records of Texas journalism do not furnish a parallel. The edition was made up of fifty-two pages with beautifully illustrated colored covers, the front page being devoted to a picture of Santa Claus. The Post don't have to get out a "special edition" in order to lead all competitors.

One Hundred Dollars Reward.

Stolen, Sunday night, from G. W. McNeese, Hubbard, Texas, one sorrel horse, 14-1-2 hands high, ball face, white hind feet, shod all around, saddle and harness worked, 7 or 8 years old, in good fix. The above reward will be paid for thief by G. W. McNEESE, Hubbard, Texas.

THE Bonham News says: "With plenty of corn, plenty of hogs and cattle, plenty of fruit and vegetables, the farmers of this county would need much less ready money than they do with little of these things and much cotton. They can raise all these things for themselves, and that at very small cost. Let them fill their granaries and barns, their cellars and smoke houses, and it will matter but little to them if cotton is low."

DEATH OF TITE JOHNSON.

Died at his home in Hempstead at 5:55 p. m., Monday December 20th, 1897, TITUS JOHNSON, aged about 56 years.

Deceased was a gallant member of Co. C, 5th Texas Cavalry, Green's Brigade, and for better than 25 years the general agent of the Houston and Texas Central railway at Hempstead. As a business man he was prompt and accurate; as a friend warm, true and sympathetic—generous and charitable to all in need; as a citizen progressive, energetic, loved and honored by all who knew him; as a soldier, brave, dashing and chivalrous, with a love for the Confederate cause that amounted to veneration, while his love and attachment to his old army comrades was boundless. No man in the Green Brigade Association, of which he was the honored and trusted treasurer, was more popular, or more highly esteemed by his comrades than was the deceased. He was the commander of Tom Green Camp, United Confederate Veterans of Waller county, and made them an excellent, enthusiastic and painstaking officer.

Mr. Johnson was a useful citizen and will be missed by the people of Hempstead. No more will his kind and friendly voice be heard by his friends and comrades; it is hushed in silence; death has claimed him as its own; his spirit has taken its flight to a brighter and better world, there to join the mighty throng that have gone before in singing Peans and Hosannahs to his Creator. Tread softly about his bier; it is hallowed ground; there sleeps a soldier and a patriot whom his comrades will ever bear in fond remembrance and delight to refer to in terms of praise and admiration. A good man has gone to meet his maker. Peace to his ashes.

THE DEATH ROLL.

John S. Norton Dead at Austin—Will be Buried Here.

A telephone message to Mr. Wm. Lusk received late Tuesday night from Austin announces the death of Mr. John S. Norton, a resident of Brenham in former years. Mr. Norton was in his seventy-second year. His wife and several children survive him.

The remains will be shipped to this place for interment, and the funeral will occur from the Union depot on the arrival of the 4:50 Central train this (Wednesday) afternoon. Interment will take place at Prairie Lea cemetery.

After meals you should have simply a feeling of comfort and satisfaction. You should not feel any special indications that digestion is going on. If you do, you have indigestion, which means not-digestion. This may be the beginning of so many dangerous diseases, that it is best to take it in hand at once and treat it with Shaker Digestive Cordial. For you know that indigestion makes poison, which causes pain, sickness. And that Shaker Digestive Cordial helps digest and cures indigestion. Shaker Digestive Cordial does this by providing the digestive materials in which the sick stomach is wanting. It also tones up and strengthens the digestive organs and makes them perfectly healthy. This is the rationale of its method cure, as the doctors would say. Sold by druggist, price 10 cents to \$1.00 per bottle.

READ THIS!

From this day on I will serve again Free Hot Lunch, Metropolitan Style, every day from 10 to 12 o'clock, just the time for you to partake of something, which will stimulate your spirits for the day's business. A complete Stock of Wines, Liquors and Cigars always on hand. A call will be appreciated. J. LEWIN, Prop. Magnolia Saloon. Below Harrison's Candy Store.

—The M. E. church, North, have decided to erect a college for colored youths at Austin.

—Rev. A. P. Morrison, D. D., of Fort Worth, late presiding elder of the Fort Worth district of the Methodist Episcopal church, has been appointed superintendent of the New Mexico mission, with headquarters at Albuquerque.

PRIZE WINNERS.

Lucky Estimates on the Weight of Candy in the Harrison Guessing Contest.

The immense stick of candy which adorned the front of Harrison's confectionary establishment for several weeks, at the weight of which some five thousand purchasers have guessed, has been weighed. Out of this immense number of estimates it is rather remarkable that only one guess should be absolutely correct. The candy weighed exactly 58 pounds and 11 ounces and this amount was one of the estimates made by Mr. Chas. Knittel. He is therefore the winner of the first prize and has choice of fifty ten cent cigars, or \$5 worth of either candy or fire works. Messrs. E. C. Buster and A. M. Krug acted as judges and awarded prizes to nineteen others whose guesses came closest to the correct figure as follows:

- Tom Botts, 58 pounds, 10 2-3 ounces.
- Adolph Russi, 58 pounds, 10 2-3 ounces.
- Chas. Carlisle, 58 pounds, 10 ounces.
- F. B. McFarland, 58 pounds, 10 ounces.
- H. Eldred, 58 pounds, 12 ounces.
- I. N. Bettison, 58 pounds, 12 ounces.
- Will Searcy, 58 pounds, 12 ounces.
- J. T. Shelby, 58 pounds, 12 ounces.
- Harry Cohen, 58 pounds, 12 ounces.
- Louis Endel, 58 pounds, 12 ounces.
- G. Hyman, 58 pounds, 12 ounces.
- Ed. Easley, (Navasota), 58 pounds, 12 ounces.
- O. A. Schill, 58 pounds, 8 ounces.
- Rob Williamson, 58 pounds, 8 ounces.
- W. Sallis, 58 pounds, 8 ounces.
- Egbert Crozier, 58 pounds, 8 ounces.
- Jno. R. Young, 58 pounds, 8 ounces.
- Hugh Lusk, 58 pounds, 8 ounces.
- Harry Cohen, 58 pounds, 8 ounces.

THE JUSTICE COURT.

Two Pleas of Guilty—a Charge of Petty Theft.

A plea of guilty entered in justice court Tuesday indicated that Mr. O. L. Eddins had been guilty of fighting in a public place. The fine assessed against him for so doing was one American legal tender silver dollar. Particulars of the "big fight" have already been given.

Mr. Seth Mayfield manifested his willingness to pay \$1 for the privilege of "cussing out" a brother in black, whom he claimed had stolen some coffee from the Brenham Grocery company. His acknowledgement of having fractured the peace was taken. Likewise his dollar. The case below will throw more light on the subject.

O. J. Jones, the colored brother above, who charged Mayfield with disturbing the peace, was called on to defend himself for a charge of petty theft preferred by Mayfield aforesaid. He was placed under bond of \$50 to appear before the honorable county court. The facts are these: Mayfield saw Jones confiscate certain coffee belonging to the Brenham Grocery Company and stuff his pockets with the same. He accused Jones of so doing. The latter denied his guilt, and it was then that the disturbance of the peace occurred.

DR. T. O. HYNES has been re-elected health physician. The place is a sinecure except in times of quarantine. During Brenham's quarantine experiences last fall the conservatism of Dr. Hynes saved the city considerable on its expense account and a great deal in the way of uninterrupted business. The health of the city will be safe in his hands another year.

An In...

Written expressly for THE BRENHAM BANNER. SADIE C. HARRISON. The world in its beauty, In its rhythmic beauty, Is seeking for something, Than a bottomless vault. It is looking for aims and a path From the people of to-day: Of a magical inspiration That shall give the heart full sway. Poet and musician shall profit, Their ideals realized, And the power of giving the world true art Shall be fully exercised. The singular stroke of the artists' brush Shall turn to a graceful line, His soul, as well as his canvas large, Shall absorb the paint in time. As he sits at his work with a northern view To give him ample light, He shall paint his thoughts, his hopes, his life, Into the canvas too. The carver shall carve with a tender belief That his heart has entered his scroll and leaf, And others shall notice his deft and skill, And his work shall be as his heart would will. But the inspiration that soothes the world Makes caring and sorrows light, Is the inspiration of doing that, Which is honest, true and right.

THE WINTER SOLSTICE.

Productive of Mud, Marriages and Good Crops.

Astronomically speaking Tuesday, December 21st, was the first day of winter, however much it may have differed literally from the actually beginning of the ice king's reign. On that date the sun reached the mean obliquity of the ecliptic for the year 1897. That is the king of day reached the furthest point of its declination south. We will therefore be some three millions and odd thousands of miles nearer to old Sol, at perihelion on Jan. 1st than we were at aphelion on July 1st. These figures are arrived at by a comparison of the present accepted value of the solar parallax at the earth's mean distance with the eccentricity of the planet's orbit.

The average reporter—and, for that matter, the average reader—is too busy trying to keep abreast of the Christmas procession to keep very accurate tab on the ecliptic or the winter solstice; hence any inaccuracies in these calculations ought to be pardoned.

Besides, Tuesday was the shortest day in the year, and we really didn't have sufficient time to go into minute details.

The chief phenomena for which this solstice has been celebrated, has been, is, and probably will be—mud and marriages. The rains descended and the floods came and the waters have covered the earth. There are no Noah navigators in evidence, but lots of matrimonial ark are being launched and the dwellers therein are entering "by twos." By reason of the ground being so thoroughly saturated the farmer hopes for ample crops another year. It is early indeed to prognosticate too confidently, but we will nevertheless gladly believe that the bountiful rains which have descended have borne increased fertility to many a region and prepared the ground for grass, grain and fruits in abundance another year.

—The Belton Reporter says the increase of wheat acreage in Bell county will be something over 100 to 1 compared with last year.

—Seventeen thousand cigars have been seized by custom officers at Laredo.

NOTICE IN PROBATE.

THE STATE OF TEXAS. To the Sheriff or any Constable of Washington County,—Greeting: G. L. Schrader, Administrator of the estate of F. Krenzlin, deceased, having filed in our County court his final Account of the condition of the estate of F. Krenzlin, deceased, together with an Application to be discharged from said administration. You are a hereby summoned, that by publication of this notice twenty days in the Brenham Banner, a newspaper regularly published in the County of Washington, you give due notice to all persons interested in the Account for final settlement of said estate, to file their objections thereto, if any they have, on or before the January term, 1898, of said County Court, commencing and to be holden at the Court House of said county, in the City of Brenham, on the 17th day of January A. D. 1898, when said account and application will be considered by said Court. Witness O. A. Seward, Clerk of the County Court of Washington county. Given under my hand and seal of said court, at my office in the City of Brenham, this 20th day of December A. D. 1897. O. A. SEWARD, Clerk County Court, Washington Co.

I hereby order this citation published in the Brenham Banner. D. E. TEAGUE, Sheriff Washington county. F. B. M. TEAGUE, Deputy Sheriff. 1st Dec 23.