

CONGRESSIONAL.

SENATE.—Monday, February 19.—Mr. Wilson presented two sets of credentials for Allison as senator-elect from Iowa, which were referred. The chair laid before the senate a joint resolution from the legislature of Ohio relative to the exclusion of American work from France and Germany. McMillan presented the resolutions of the chambers of commerce from Minneapolis and St. Paul opposing the forfeiture of land grants to the Northern Pacific. Consideration of the bill providing for national bank circulation was resumed. After an extended discussion Plumb modified his amendment by a clause providing that if when national bank circulation shall be surrendered, it be not taken up by other national banks within thirty days, the secretary of the treasury shall issue its equivalent in treasury notes.

HOUSE.—Bills were introduced and referred: By Mr. Peel, granting 320 acres of public lands to each of the survivors of the Mountain Meadow massacre. By Mr. Nichols, to regulate traffic on railroads aided by government bonds. It makes freight pools and discrimination in freight rates unlawful. By Mr. Cobb, providing for paying the cost of surveying of lands granted to the Northern Pacific and subject the same to taxation. The bill to relieve certain soldiers from the charge of desertion was passed under a suspension of the rules. The bill fixing at one cent for each four ounces the rate of postage on second-class matter mailed by persons other than a publisher or newspaper agent, was passed under a suspension of the rules. Belford introduced a resolution calling on the secretary of state to inform the house whether France Bismarck has sent his department any letter touching on the resolution recently passed by this house concerning the death of Herr Lasker, and, if so, to transmit a copy of the same and inform the house of any advice he may have on the subject.

SENATE.—Tuesday, February 19.—Mr. Dawes from the committee on Indian affairs, reported formally the bill providing for the punishment of trespassers on Indian lands by imprisonment of one year or a fine of \$500, or both. The action of the committee was upon the recommendation of the secretary of the interior and especially intended to keep Payne and his followers off the Oklahoma lands. The bill to provide for issue of circulation to national banks was taken up. Mr. Bayard addressed the senate in opposition to Plumb's amendment. The debate was a long one, and was participated in by Bayard, McPherson, Plumb, Vest, Allison and Mitchell. Bayard and Allison's opposition to the Plumb amendment was based, among other things, upon the fundamental changes which those propositions would involve in the character of our government. Without action the senate adjourned.

HOUSE.—The house during the early hours of the morning was a scene of great confusion and excitement. Mr. Hiscock attempted to have the pension bill read and the democrats objected with great emphasis. Mr. Hiscock was standing full in front of the speaker's desk, where he was surrounded by an excited crowd of adherents and opponents, and finally the disorder became so great that the services of the sergeant-at-arms were called into requisition. Mr. Tucker, approaching to within a couple of feet of Hiscock, addressed him directly and called him to order. "The gentleman calls me to order," exclaimed Hiscock, excitedly, "because his side is unwilling to have advertised to the country the bill which they attempt to force down this house." At 8:15 a quorum was obtained and Hewitt's motion making the Mexican pension bill the special order for the 21st inst. was seconded—165 to 1. The resolution was then adopted—yeas, 175; nays, 35. The announcement of the result was received with applause on the democratic side, and at 8:55 the house adjourned until Wednesday.

SENATE.—Wednesday, February 20.—The following resolution was agreed to: Resolved, That the secretary of the interior inform the senate when and how many acres of indemnity lands were certified or patented to railroad corporations in Iowa, and to whom grants of lands were donated; also, whether any such roads are now claiming more indemnity lands, and in what quantities. On motion of Mr. Allison the senate passed the bill fixing the time of holding the terms of the circuit court and district courts of the United States in the northern district of Iowa. Mr. Sewell's bill, appropriating \$80,000 per annum for the militia, was passed. After several amendments, some of which were agreed to, the senate went into executive session and soon thereafter adjourned.

HOUSE.—The report was agreed to calling upon the postmaster-general for the heretofore unpublished reports of special agents in reference to the star route investigation. Reports were submitted as follows: From the public lands commissioner, a bill to forfeit the land grant of the Oregon Central. From the committee on foreign affairs, a resolution to request the president not to deliver to the Spanish government Senor Carlos Aguirre held for extradition at Key West, until it is ascertained that the charges against him are true and that he is not held for political purposes. A joint resolution, appropriating \$150,000 toward the education of Indians was passed. The military academy bill was discussed without action.

SENATE.—Friday, February 20.—Bills were introduced and referred: By Mr. Cullom to improve the navigation of the Mississippi river. The bill providing for the punishment of persons falsely personating officers and employees of the United States was passed. The senate suspended further consideration of the morning business order and resumed debate on the bill to provide for issue of circulation to banking associations, and Morgan addressed the senate in support of the amendment offered by him permitting national banks to deposit bonds of separate states as security for circulation. A long debate followed, participated in by Maxey, Plumb, Butler, Coke, Harrison, Ingalls, Bayard, Beck, Merrill, Aldrich and McPherson.

HOUSE.—The house went into committee of the whole (Bland in the chair) on the military academy bill. The post route bill was passed. The senate amendments to the house bill declaring all public roads post routes was concurred in. A resolution calling upon the secretary of the interior for information of when the line of the Northern Pacific or any part of it was definitely located, and whether that road claims any lands on which homestead or pre-emption entries had been made prior to the time of final location, was reported from the committee and agreed to. The speaker laid before the house the following message:

To the House of Representatives: I transmit herewith the report of the secretary of state, of the 21st instant, whereby your honorable body, and through you the people of the United States, may become apprised of the generous contribution made by her Britannic majesty's government toward the efforts for the relief of Lieutenant Greeley's Arctic exploring party by presenting to the United States the Arctic steamer "Alert."

CHESTER A. ARTHUR.

HOUSE.—Saturday, February 23.—

Under the call of committees the following reports were made: Mr. Moulton, from the committee on judiciary, providing for holding terms of court in the northern district of Illinois at Peoria. The house went into committee of the whole (Converse in the chair) on the pleuro-pneumonia bill. Mr. J. S. Wise (Va.) spoke in opposition to the states' rights doctrine, which had been presented as an argument why the bill should not pass. He had heard the gentleman from New York (Cox) boast that he was a shining light and monument of democracy here to point to the doctrine of states rights. He did not call the gentleman a monument. He called him a pillar of gas by day to lead the democracy. [Laughter.] He was sick of hearing the little bantling chicken of state rights being pitted against the heavy, gorgeous, red-combed cock of the nation, for it knocked it to smithereens every time. [Laughter.] The committee then rose and the house adjourned.

APPALLING LOSS OF LIFE.

The Southern Section of the Country Visited by a Cyclone Which Makes Fearful Havoc.

SHAWNEETOWN, Ill., February 20.—The mayor of this city has issued a proclamation in which he says:

"Again we are compelled to appeal to the public for aid for our suffering people. We had hoped until yesterday that our people would not be left entirely homeless, or even to the extent of last year; but, alas, we are doomed to disappointment. Yesterday at 4 o'clock p. m. a terrific storm swept over our city, carrying destruction and desolation in its path. Hundreds of houses that were deluged to their roofs and tottering on their foundations, were swept away and dashed to pieces, leaving hundreds of families without houses or shelter of any kind after the flood subsided, which is hoped for, but which is an event still in the dark future, as the river has now passed the flood height of last year and is still rising, and what height it will reach we cannot know."

AUGUSTA, Ga., February 20.—Yesterday's storm was the severest since the cyclone of 1875. In Hancock county the storm overturned outhouses and unroofed houses. At Harlem, besides damages in the interior, the plantation of George Granade was ruined, houses demolished and timber carried off. On the plantation of Dr. Reese, a negro was killed, and Mrs. V. M. Wade, wife of the overseer, seriously wounded. The town of Bradley, S. C., was nearly blown away.

BIRMINGHAM, Ala., February 20.—A cyclone swept through the valley yesterday noon, and it is reported that thirteen persons were injured in one community.

At Leeds the cyclone swept away a section house of the railroad, killing three negroes. An old white couple named Bass were seriously injured. Three miles south of Leeds, the house of John Poole was blown away, and his son, daughter and child were instantly killed. Poole, his wife and four children, were very badly injured.

Later intelligence but adds horror to the woeful story. William Wassen, aged 14, was killed. George Davis, a boy on the Poole place, was killed. Miles of forest in the Cahaba valley were leveled by the storm. The bodies of cows were found around Leeds. In many places the ground is clear of stones, as if carefully swept.

EVANSVILLE, February 20.—A relief boat from below reports awful scenes of desolation as the result of yesterday's storm, but no loss of life is reported. Within fifteen miles of Evansville fifty or more houses were washed away. The town of Fairplay, containing fifteen houses, was swept out of existence. The boat took a great many people from trees and hills, some badly frozen.

WILMINGTON, N. C., February 20.—A Star special says: A terrible cyclone passed near Rockingham last night, killing from fifteen to twenty people and wounding a great many more.

MACON, Ga., February 20.—This city was visited yesterday afternoon and last night by a tremendous storm. There are rumors of death and destruction in the surrounding counties. A special from Atlanta to the Telegram reports fifty killed north of that city. A special from Columbus reports several killed and wounded. Twenty-five houses were leveled by the cyclone. The bodies of three white men and eleven negroes have been recovered. Search is making for others believed to have been killed. At Pioneer mills six houses were blown down and one man killed. At Woodwards two men were killed and at Winsboro four were killed. At Polkton one was killed.

WILMINGTON, N. C., February 21.—Specials give further particulars of the cyclone. The storm came so suddenly that the people were unable to escape from their houses. Buildings were blown into fragments and the bodies of the dead terribly bruised and cut. The force of the wind was so great that two millstones were moved a hundred feet, chickens and birds were picked clean and the largest trees uprooted, and smaller ones stripped of bark. At midnight the sky was a dazzling red. The killed and wounded belong almost exclusively to the poorer classes and there will be suffering and destitution among the survivors. Already twenty-three dead bodies have been found in Richmond county.

ATLANTIC, February 21.—Reliable information from Grass Knob shows twenty persons killed within a space of three miles.

ATLANTA, Ga., February 21.—Reliable reports state that on the line of the Cherokee and Pickens counties, within a space of three miles, twenty-two persons were killed and forty wounded. No deaths occurred in the other counties contiguous to Atlanta.

They call men who were officers in the army by their military titles in order to ex-hon-erate them as it were.

SUFFOCATED IN A SHAFT.

Mysterious Explosion of Fire Damp in a Coal Mine Shaft—Nineteen Persons Taken Out Dead.

UNIONTOWN, Pa., February 20.—The little mining village of West Lesenyg, four miles north of here, was this morning the scene of the most terrific explosion ever known in the coke region. The Connellville Coal and Iron company have coke ovens which give employment to about 100 men. The coal is obtained by means of a shaft which reaches the mine at a distance of 400 feet from the surface. This morning a part of the force who had worked all night left the mines a little after 3 o'clock and seventy others took their places, making the usual morning shift. About half-past six o'clock while the men were digging, without warning occurred an explosion that convulsed the mine in every apartment and threw the men into the utmost consternation. The scene of the explosion was fully 800 feet distant from the bottom of the shaft, and about 1,200 feet from the surface opening, yet the report was heard on the outside for a considerable distance, and caused such a jar that the top of the derrick, 100 feet high, was knocked off. Two mules were standing at the bottom of the shaft, 800 feet from the explosion, and the rush of air blew one of them through a wooden cage, shattering it to pieces. An awful scene ensued among the terror-stricken miners. All the lamps were blown out and they were left in darkness and confusion. They had not time to recover from the shock until they found themselves unable to breathe. The explosion of fire-damp left the mine without oxygen. The men hovered near the bottom, but even here did not long find relief. Of all the men who were in hearing of where the explosion occurred Dick Balsey alone escaped to tell the awful story. When the explosion came and all the lights were blown out, Balsey had just changed his clothes. He at once wound a part of his clothes tightly around his face and mouth to keep the foul air from choking him, and gave the rest of his garments to a companion with instructions to take the same precautions. He then started for the entrance, bidding his companion to follow. They ran over the bodies of the men, and over shattering wagons. They could see nothing, but could hear the groans of dying men. Presently Balsey's companion protested that they were not going in the right direction and turned back. Like Lot's wife, he perished. Balsey pushed on until he finally saw light and was taken out. His escape is regarded as most marvelous. He says some of the men kept their heads under water as long as they could, and would have to change from water to the damp until they finally gave up the unequal struggle. When news of the explosion flashed around the families of the men gathered about the shaft crazy with suspense. Balsey's story gave them little ground for hope that any could be got out alive, and it was fully two hours before any volunteers could enter the mine. It was about eight o'clock when the first body was brought out. It was that of Michael Ricks, whose wife and two little ones were waiting at the shaft. There were no marks of violence. He had evidently died of suffocation. At noon 19 bodies had been carried out. The company's books were then examined, the roll called, and it was announced that all the men were accounted for.

The identified dead are as follows: Michael Heffen, leaves a wife and six children; John Buckley, unmarried; Patrick Kennedy, unmarried; James Tracy, single; James Baker, wife and two children; David Lloyd, single; William Davis, single; Thomas McGarey, wife and three children; John Harty, single; Michael Ricks, wife and two children; George Callis, wife; David Buckner, wife and two children; John Murray, wife and child; Peter Waters, single; Wm. Tearing, wife and four children; Joe Barks, wife; H. Warmus, single; Alban N. Hackney, wife and one child; Garey E. Mace, unknown relations. Most of the above had died from suffocation. Their faces were generally very black. The last man taken out alive was Henry Wilson, who managed to subsist on air in the very bottom until rescued. He was almost gone. Many of those who were in other parts of the mine suffered severely.

UNIONTOWN, Pa., February 21.—The scene of yesterday's terrible disaster was visited by large numbers to-day. The majority were simply curious, but many came with the earnest intention of investigating and, if possible, ascertaining the cause of the explosion. A close examination of the mine leads many to believe that the disaster resulted from improper ventilation. The mine inspector said he was convinced that heavy gas must have come from a leak in some vacant room and, the room filling up, ran over and followed along the roof until some miner touched it off with his head lamp. These facts are borne out by the fact that only four men killed by the explosion bore marks of violence. The company is doing all in their power to alleviate the suffering of the wounded and the sorrow of the afflicted. The funerals will take place from here to-morrow. The coroner will begin an investigation on Saturday.

A Fight With Horse Thieves.

DEADWOOD, February 19.—Information from Stoneville says horse thieves had a fight with Deputy Sheriff Willard's posse. They killed Cunningham, who was a bystander. The body of Jack Campbell, one of the outlaws, was found five miles from the scene of the encounter perforated by fifteen bullets. Tuttle, the wounded outlaw, is not expected to live. Axelbee, the leader, escaped severely wounded. Deputy Willard and nine others are in pursuit. Pruden, a prisoner, over whose arrest the tragedy occurred, has been safely jailed.

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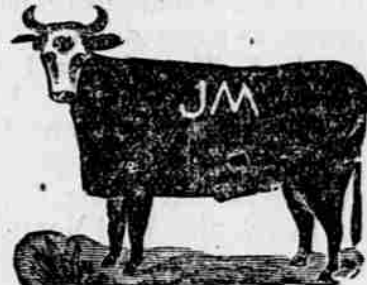
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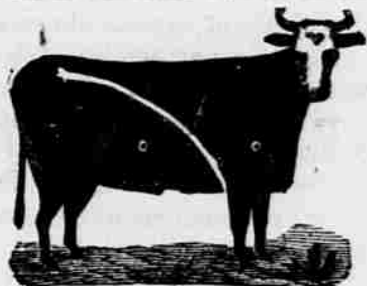
NEBRASKA.

STOCK DIRECTORY



DENNIS M'KILLIP.

Ranch on Red Willow, Thornburg, Hayes County, Neb. Cattle branded "J. M." on left side. Young cattle branded same as above, also "J." on left jaw. Under-slope right ear. Horses branded "E" on left shoulder.

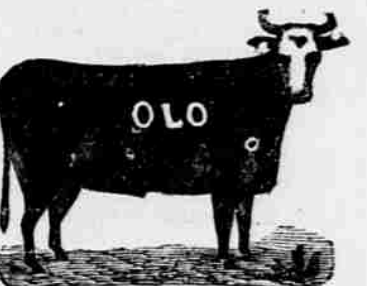


FOR SALE.—My range of 1,000 acres of deeded land in one body, including the Black and Byfield hay lands; timber and water with two good farm houses and other improvements. Convenient to No. 1 school privileges. Situated in the Republican valley west of Red Willow creek. Call on or address J. F. BLACK, Red Willow, Neb.



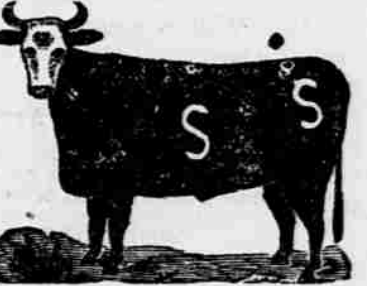
W. J. WILSON.

Stock brand—circle on left shoulder; also dewlap and a crop and under half crop on left ear, and a crop and under bit in the right. Ranch on the Republican. Post-office, Max, Dundy county, Nebraska.



HENRY T. CHURCH.

Osborn, Neb. Range: Red Willow creek, in southwest corner of Frontier county, cattle branded "O L O" on right side. Also, an over crop on right ear and under crop on left. Horses branded "8" on right shoulder.



SPRING CREEK CATTLE CO.

Indianola, Neb. Range: Republican Valley, east of Dry Creek, and near head of Spring Creek, in Chase county. J. D. WELBORN, Vice President and Superintendent



JOHN HATFIELD & SON.

McCook, Neb., Ranch 4 miles southeast, on Republican river. Stock branded with a bar — and lazy on left hip.



J. B. MESERVE.

Ranch, Spring Canyon on the Frenchman River, in Chase county, Neb. Stock branded as above; also "717" on left side; "O. L." on left hip; "7" on right hip and "L." on right shoulder; "L." on left shoulder and "X." on left jaw. Half under-crop left ear, and square-crop right ear.



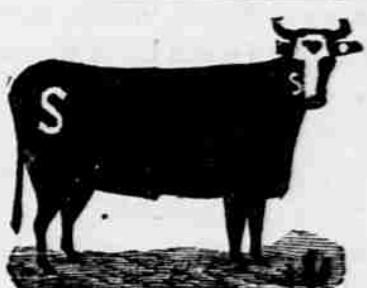
C. D. PHELPS.

Range: Republican Valley, four miles west of Culbertson, south side of Republican. Stock branded "161" and "7-L." P. O. Address, Culbertson, Neb.



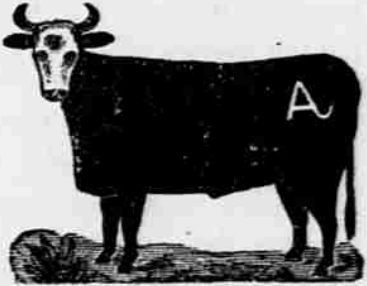
THE TURNIP BRAND.

Ranch 2 miles north of McCook, Stock branded on left hip, and a few double crosses on left side. C. D. ERCANBRACK.



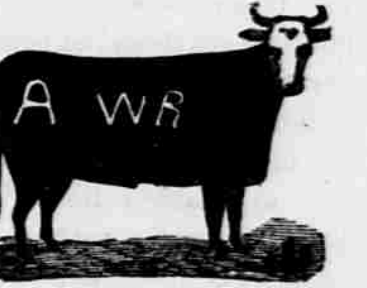
STOKES & TROTH.

P. O. Address, Carrio, Hayes county, Nebraska. Range, Red Willow, above Carrio. Stock branded as above, also lazy on left side and slit in both ears.



GEORGE J. FREDERICK.

Ranch 4 miles southwest of McCook, on the Driftwood. Stock branded "A J" on the left hip. P. O. address, McCook, Neb.



W. N. PROCTOR.

McCook, Neb., range; Red Willow creek, in southwest corner of Frontier county. Also E. P. brand on right hip and side and swallow-fork in right ear. Horses branded E. P. on right hip. A few branded "A" on right hip.

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