

THE CATTLE INDUSTRY.

PAST AND PRESENT METHODS OF THE IRREPRESSIBLE COWBOY.

"Texas Run" and "Round Ups" Now Being Rapidly Narrowed Down Into Herds—Recollections of the Good Old Times—Losses of a Hard Winter.

The progress and success of the cattle industry in the west has been marvelous. For many years the business was conducted almost entirely by individuals, and so widened and prospered that in a few years the cattle kings were almost as numerous and opulent as the famous "bonanza kings."

The profits were large. Each successive "beef round up" brought to the eastern market thousands of head of cattle, comparing favorably with the "pumped corn fat" stock of Nebraska and Illinois. Newspaper writers set forth the business in the most glowing colors; magazines gave facts and figures with elaborate care; money flowed in from the great commercial centers; new companies were formed every day, and the festive cowboy grew apace.

But the day of retribution was coming. The spring of 1886 opened up clear and bright, with but little rain to call forth the grass from the whole earth. During the whole summer there was a terrible drought, and the hot winds swept over the parched plains, shriveling and killing all sorts of vegetation.

Now, however, the order of things has changed, and it is the man of small herds who has the advantage. It is acknowledged by men who ought to know that in the future the only way to raise cattle successfully will be to feed and shelter them well in winter, and either close herd or pasture them during the warm seasons.

Another prominent member of the stock association said: "Yes, it will not be many years before large herds will be a thing of the past. One or two years will put an end to the round up, and the business will be in the hands of local men."

On being told that your correspondent had questioned one man about the loss last winter, he laughed and voluntarily said: "Well, I don't know that I blame any one interested in the matter for not wanting to talk about it, but there is no use in trying to keep it secret any longer. Seventy-five per cent. of all the cattle is somewhere near it, though 80 may be nearer. One firm made a drive of 20,000 in the fall, and in the spring found a scarce 1,500; another of 5,000 numbered but 500 after the 'round up.'"

Utilizing a Watch Dog. An inhabitant of China, Me., has been utilizing his valuable Newfoundland watch dog by carding and spinning his fleece. It made four skeins of jet black yarn, weighing two pounds and a quarter, and spun as easily and well as sheep's wool.—Boston Budget.

THE STRONGLOCENTROTUS.

A New Edible for Gourmands that is Yielded by the Sea.

A new delicacy of marine origin, and surpassing, in the opinion of many southern gourmands, the finest oysters is about to be introduced into this country. A supply of the true Mediterranean sea urchin, in good condition, is to be consigned to our market, and English epicures will be seduced to try the eggs of the echinidean after the fashion of Marseilles—that is, by eating them off the shells, raw and uncooked.

But all along the shores of the Mediterranean the five-celled rosette forming the inside of the prickly creature is esteemed one of the tastiest morsels yielded by the sea. Strangers visiting the Marseilles fish market will see baskets after baskets filled with these heavy green and violet-colored hedgehogs of the deep. They are deftly opened by the fishwives, the left hand being protected against the sharp prickles by a stout cloth wrapped around it, the stomach sack is cut out, and the fine orange-colored eggs in the center exposed and handed upon the shell to the customers ever ready for the dainty.

The urchin fishery, owing to the great demand for the crustacean in southern Europe, is one of the most important in the Mediterranean. The creatures frequent rocky ground, and in the form of round, prickly balls, they are found, hundreds together, a few feet below high water mark in the shoals of the Spanish, French and Italian coasts. They are captured by means of a chest stick, with which the fisher probes about their haunts, and often, too, by divers. In the bay of Naples nothing is more amusing than to watch the urchin fishers at work in search of their prey.

What Does "Sterling" Mean? The Haberdasher, a monthly journal of the men's furnishing trade, devotes prominent space to the abuse which has steadily grown till the word "sterling," which, when stamped upon what purported to be a silver handle for a stick or umbrella, used to be a guarantee of coin metal, has now absolutely no meaning whatever, and is simply and solely a device to deceive the public when that public tries to buy a massive silver knob for \$1.65, including a silk umbrella or a handsome cane.

English law makes the use of the word "sterling" upon plated ware felony. There is no law in this country that covers the practice, and it is not a creditable state of mercantile morality under which men spit hairs so dexterously, as do certain manufacturers, in justifying their use of the stamp. The average retail buyers undoubtedly believe the "sterling" stamp to warrant the metal coin silver. But the outside coating of even a merely "washed" handle is of course silver, and on no better ground than this do some manufacturers base their claim of fair dealing and honesty.

Flogging the Russian Peasant. Personal dignity is something unknown in a Russian village. If a peasant cannot pay his taxes he is flogged. If the elected communal and village authorities cannot collect the amounts for which they are assessed at the district treasury office, they are flogged to call in the assistance of the police. There is a good deal of work in the assertion that in the neighborhood of poor peasants in Russia the birch trees are bare of twigs, sacrificed to the beating out of the poor peasants arrears and taxes. The village and district police not only flog, but they march off the poor fellows to the estates of neighboring proprietors and hire them out as laborers, on the understanding that the wages shall be paid to the treasury officials.

Who Should Avoid Tobacco. A man may, it is true, smoke five or six cigars, or as many pipes, each day, without recognizing any harm in consequence; but we make the statement, without hesitation, that he could not indulge to that extent and continue in perfect health. Men who live sedentary lives must be more temperate than those who are constantly in the open air. There are certain complaints in which the use of tobacco should be forbidden altogether. Men who have weak lungs, with a tendency to consumption, ought never to use tobacco, and the same, as a rule, holds good in chronic bronchitis. In all constitutional diseases characterized by general functional derangement, impaired nutrition and impoverishment of the blood, the poisonous effects of tobacco are intensified. In fact, there is not a condition of ill health in which we should feel justified in recommending the patient to use tobacco. Let men in perfect health smoke if they find that it adds much to the pleasures of living. We cannot condemn the habit so long as it is held in restraint; but if indulged to an excess, a certain measure of ill health is the inevitable consequence.—Boston Herald.

To fasten knife handles that have become loosened, take powdered resin and mix with it a small quantity of powdered chalk or whiting. Fill the hole in the handle with the mixture, heat the tang of the knife or fork and thrust in. When cold it will be securely fastened.

PHYSICAL STRAIN.

PERILS RESULTING FROM EXCESS OF BODILY ACTIVITY.

A Proper Degree of Exercise Necessary to the Well Being of Man—The Jewish Race—Sedentary or Brain Pursuits. Overwork.

Nothing is more absolutely necessary to the well being of man—not only physical, but mental and even moral—than the bodily activity involved in a proper degree of exercise. But, on the other hand, undue strain put upon the physical forces is a potent source of danger. It is a case, for the application of the Horatian maxim in regard to moderation. Exactly to define the proper mean is an extremely difficult task. We can, however, offer some suggestions on this point that may prove of use; and we will also touch upon some of the perils resulting from excess. The ancient Greeks have for many centuries supplied the world, among other things, with models of physical culture. The climate permitted them to live largely in the open air, their dress was unrestricting, and they paid great attention to athletic sports and the development and care of the body. They were, as a people, patterns of manly and womanly beauty; their average of health was high, and their longevity good.

The observations made, however, by the physicians of the Greek and Roman schools go conclusively to show that, wherever physical activity was carried to undue excess, among them—as in the case of professional athletes, etc.—the inevitable result was premature decay and early death. Excessive physical culture during the age of chivalry furnished the same results. Study of the vital statistics of England, France and Prussia in modern times leads to a similar conclusion. Not only does the point we are urging hold true in the lives of individuals, but it is true of nations and races. Perhaps, as regards tenacity of existence as displayed by a race, the most striking argument in favor of our position to be found in history is the negative testimony furnished by the Jews. This people, since its dispersion, has never in any general, systematic way cultivated its physique. It has never voluntarily borne arms. It has taken no share in the athletic pursuits of the nations among whom it has been placed. It has never exhibited a high physical standard. Its most precious heritages, probably, been due, more than anything else, to its apparent corporeal feebleness. Yet today this race, for tenacity and vitality, probably stands first on earth, and even at this late stage of its history still shows a capacity for producing results in literature, science, art, politics and commerce that rank with the best.

Full vigor of intellect is only properly based upon vigor of body, and the vigor of body results only from proper exercise. It is no unusual thing in colleges to find students standing well both in their studies and in athletics. President Eliot has always been a staunch friend of physical sports, and himself when in college pulled an oar in the university crew. No one can ever look at Joseph Cook, or could ever have looked at Agassiz or Bryant, without at once recognizing the development and solidity of the physical man. Such instances are almost innumerable. But one thing is certain: no man can continually use both his physical and mental powers at anything like their full capacity without soon coming to grief. Human nature was not made for this sort of thing. It is burning the candle at both ends. It is not given to one man to be both an Emerson and a Bull.

A man should decide which half of his nature is to have the lead, and then exercise the other half just sufficiently to keep the former in condition and to preserve the proper general balance. If he lives by his brain, let him take physical exercise sufficient to keep his bodily faculties, and by consequence his brain at their best—but not too much. If he lives by his body, a certain admixture of brain occupation will make him more useful and happy, but even actually physically healthier man. A body worker should use this and every other possible precaution against undue physical strain. In both and in all cases overwork of the bodily forces must result in serious harm. The outside may be fair, and the external appearance all that could be desired, but inside there will be decay. Wilkie Collins, in one of his stories, made the student of law, who is a naturally sound and vigorous of even the trained athlete, when the call upon his vitality has been too prolonged or too great, or when his physical development has been abnormally forced—how suddenly his apparent robustness disappears, and is replaced by morbid conditions, upon any sudden or extra tension of work or emotion. The case of the all conquering but finally foiled Sullivan, which has lately attracted so much attention, seems clearly one exactly in point.

The Victim of a Detective. Since the breath of life was breathed into humanity no fool, male or female, can be found equal to the fool who is jealous. When that passion is aroused there is no boundary line set. Money counts as nothing, and the victims are the most credulous people on the footstool. A very tyro can make them believe anything, and when pace your detective of this class gets a grip on purse strings he never lets go. I happen personally to know one case in point. One of the wealthiest citizens of Chicago thought he had reason to be suspicious of his wife about four years ago. He employed a "shadower." Remarkable as it may seem the man reported that she was absolutely innocent, and convinced the husband that such was the case. He was given \$500 for his services. But did it end there? By no means. When that money had been blown in the detective went to the man and told him that unless more cash was forthcoming he would inform the wrongfully suspected wife. To the couple a child had in the meantime been born, and the millionaire would have sacrificed anything rather than let the mother of his heir learn of his groundless jealousy. The fellow was given when he was asked, and is now a regular pensioner to the amount of \$50 per month.—Inter Ocean.

A First Class Bronco Rider. A first class flash rider or bronco buster receives high wages and deserves them, for he follows a most dangerous trade, at which no man can hope to grow old; his work being infinitely harder than that of an eastern horse breaker or rough rider, because he has to do it in such a limited time. A good rider is a good rider all the world over; but an eastern or English horse breaker and western bronco buster have so little in common with each other as regards style or surroundings, and are so totally out of place in doing each other's work, that it is almost impossible to get either to admit that the other has any merits at all as a horseman, for neither could sit in the saddle of the other or could without great difficulty perform his task. The ordinary eastern seat, which approaches more or less the seat of a cross country rider or fox hunter, is nearly as different from the cowboy's seat as from that of a man who rides backback.—Theodore Roosevelt in The Century.

REVIVING ITS FORMER GLORY.

Remarkable Progress of Modern Athens in Education—Placating the Turk.

Nobody who has known Athens for long or who knows the real resources of the country of which she is the capital, can be disappointed with the progress made. Few cities have improved more during the last twenty years. The government has introduced compulsory education on a most extensive scale; railroads are being opened; drainage and the planting of trees have received great attention, and the sudden breeze of patriotism which has lately passed over Greece and puzzled Europe will doubtless bear its fruits in greater unity of purpose. Perhaps the real evil which, more than anything else, has checked the progress of Greece during the last half century has been its constitutional government.

There are many Cavour's in Greece. Tri-coupi is a Cavour with English ideas; but unfortunately Greece is not ruled over by a Victor Emmanuel, nor has she yet produced a Garibaldi. Everybody in the small kingdom is, as of old, a politician, and the consequence of this is that ministries rise and fall and elections take place with a rapidity which might even astonish us. The one point on which all Greeks are agreed, and which has been fought them by late events is, that if they are ever to hold their own in the Balkan peninsula, they must have more territory. They crave for the fertile plains of Epirus and Macedonia; for something that will give them a chance of development and the means of existence on a large scale.

The place where the Greek is seen to the greatest advantage is not at Athens, where mass meetings will one day cheer for Delianism and the next for Tri-coupi, but at Constantinople. There he is seen in his defensive, living in the midst of the great destroyer of his race and freedom. Here his commercial propensities and industries have brought him to the fore. The "unspeakable Turk," who loves money, but hates making it as bitterly as he hates the Greek, who can make it, has given him in return for money everything that he asks. This has enabled the Greeks to attack the Turks with the losses mentioned in weapons of education. Concessions for Greek schools all over the rotten empire have been literally bought. There is scarcely a Greek village in Macedonia, Epirus, the islands and the coast villages of Asia Minor which has not been supplied with schools for both girls and boys, either through the munificence of rich Greeks or through the clerical and monastic influence, which in its day has played so valiant a part in the conservation of the Hellenic language and the Christian religion.—Fortnightly Review.

Roosters of the Philippines. "I have been told," writes Alexander R. Webb, United States consul at Manila, Philippine Islands, "that a native will sell his shirt at any time for a rooster, and I am rather inclined to the belief that there are more game roosters in the islands. Walk two or three blocks and you will meet at least a dozen natives, each with a rooster under his arm. Every bird has a piece of twine about a yard long tied to one of its legs, while at the other end is a wooden peg about three inches long. When the owner wants to enter a house or has any special work that requires his temporary absence from his pet, he sticks the peg in the ground and the fowl is securely picketed. One can see roosters thus anchored at almost every turn when walking about the town. Natives meet on the street, and forgetting the business they may have on hand, set their birds down and immediately there is a contest. I know of one place on Iris street, and there may be others in different parts of the city, where an immense building is devoted to cock fighting, a license being paid to the government for the privilege. The building covers about 300 feet square and is built of bamboo with the roof thatched with grass. An admission fee of about ten cents is charged, and here roosters are fought every afternoon from 1 o'clock until dark. Steel galls are used, and the sport is about as brutal as it is anywhere. The crowd yell and bet just as they do on an American race course. While the amusement is less brutal than a bull or a prize fight, it is bad enough. Next door to our house resides a native who is evidently a sort of game bird master. He has an inclosure in which he keeps twelve or fifteen roosters, and he gives them as much care as a fast horse fancier would his animals. He has some of them in small stall like inclosures, while others are picketed on the ground, which is kept carefully swept. Mornings and evenings he and several other men and boys groom the birds, discuss their good points and let them fight a little. Occasionally one of the birds pulls his peg out of the ground and jumps on his neighbor. Immediately the whole establishment is in a turmoil—the chickens cackle, the children run out of the house, and the talk heard indicates that something terrible has happened.—St. Louis Republican.

The Plattsmouth Herald Is enjoying a Boom in both its DAILY AND WEEKLY EDITIONS.

The Year 1888

Will be one during which the subjects of national interest and importance will be strongly agitated and the election of a President will take place. The people of Cass County will would like to learn of this year and would keep abreast with the times should

Political, Commercial and Social Transactions

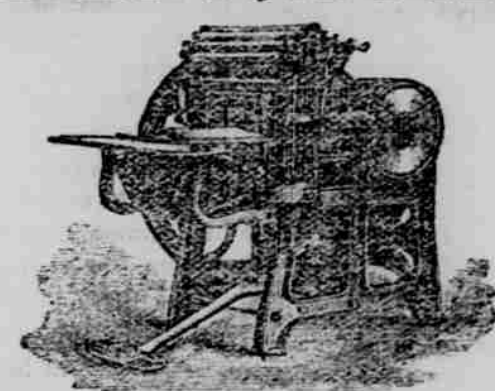
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Now while we have the subject before the people we will venture to speak of our

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