

000 a year, divided equally among the foregoing arid states, the amount would be to each \$1,428,571. By giving to each a percentage of the latter sum equal to the percentage of public land to its whole area the allotment would be:

California .....	\$828,571 18
Arizona .....	1,085,713 96
Montana .....	1,114,285 38
Utah .....	1,271,628 19
Nevada .....	1,357,142 45
Wyoming .....	1,228,571 06
Idaho .....	1,271,628 19
Total .....	\$8,157,540 41

"This would leave a balance of \$1,842,459 59 to pay the cost of administering the leasehold system.

"When Colorado and New Mexico are included in the calculations the sum is slightly less to each state and territory.

We would be glad to know of any more statesmanlike and feasible method of taking care of the public range and deriving a revenue for irrigation."

**THE EVOLUTION OF LYNCH LAW.**

If the present tendency be not checked, the custom of lynching a particularly obnoxious criminal by fire promises to become as popular a spectacle in the United States as the bloody bull fight is in Spain. The growing boldness of the lynchers and the continually greater publicity of their hideous performances are appalling.

The Colorado burning was, we believe, the first that was witnessed by women. The affair at Leavenworth, Kan., was not only witnessed by women, but by school-children, and was allowed to proceed without interruption within the limits of a large city. The burning in Terre Haute, Ind., another city of considerable size, was similar in all respects, and in addition the leaders of the mob seemed to court notice. This is evident from a picture taken while the excitement was at its height and which was reproduced in the Terre Haute newspapers. "Instead of trying to hide their identity in any way," we are told, "the lynchers stand boldly out," and one of them, perceiving the photographer, "even removed his hat, as if anxious for notoriety." The description of the photograph adds that "between the two groups of the mob can be seen the body of the negro lying upon the fire."

The climax in this ascending or, it were better to say, descending scale is reached in the more recent affair at Corsicana, Tex. It appears that the whole country turned out—if the reports are to be believed. "It was a county event," says one correspondent, "in which every resident who could took part. From early morning, when the negro was taken from the officers, until noon runners were traveling through the country districts telling of the punishment that was to be inflicted

upon him, and inviting spectators. Store and farm work was stopped] and people poured into town by hundreds. They came in all sorts of vehicles, from an ox-cart to the special train of seven cars, all crowded, that was run from Ennis."

From all this it is but a step to a legitimate public spectacle in a great amphitheatre, with handsome private boxes for the wealthy, and tickets advertised a week in advance. For this last affair was recognized by a local representative of the law as altogether proper.—Macon (Ga.) Telegraph.

**COL. CHITTENDEN'S BOOK.**

The history of the fur trade, upon which Colonel H. M. Chittenden of the U. S. Engineers has been engaged for five years past, is now soon to appear, according to the Journal of Sioux City, where Colonel Chittenden has his headquarters at present. It will be published in three volumes next September by Francis P. Harper, the publisher of the late Dr. Coues' monumental editions of early western texts, and will be fully supplied with such needful matter as maps. Owners of Colonel Chittenden's book on Yellowstone Park, who appreciate the thoroughness of it and its rank as an authority, look for something quite unusual in his history of the fur trade.

"All the beginnings of civilization," says the author, as quoted by the Journal, "in this then remote and unknown country, were made under the fostering protection of the fur trade. The first trans-continental highway, the Oregon trail, was opened and established by the traders, as was also the no less important route of the Santa Fe trail. If its relation to western history as shown by all these facts was of profound and far-reaching consequence, the annals of its doings were full of exciting and romantic interest. Never before nor since has there been a period in the history of our country that contains so much which appeals to the lover of adventure. The student of those stirring times will feel that it is not necessary to go very far from home to find a region filled with history as attractive as anything romance has produced."

Eugene F. Ware of Topeka, Kansas, was in Nebraska City, Friday morning, March 29th, 1901, and THE CONSERVATIVE regrets that he could not be prevailed upon to tarry long enough to visit Arbor Lodge. Mr. Ware is a good lawyer, a good poet, a good man and a good citizen, and we wish to goodness he lived here. His character as a man of letters has really given Topeka a reputation in literature, notwithstanding the legislators of that commonwealth convene and write statutes in that Carrie Nation town.

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