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MEGEATH STATIONERY

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Live Stock in Fine Condition and Outlook Bright for Ranchmen.

Mrs. A. J. Plumer Prefers Life on One of the Finest Ranches in Nebraska to a Home in London or Philadelphia.

BROKEN BOW, Neb., May 1 .- (Special.)-The men who said that central and western Nebraska was a "vast arid desert" never conceived that on the eve of the twentieth the settler and his rights are respected by century practically every foot of the "desert" his neighbors and very little friction ocwould be occupied by vast herds of cattle, curs between them. The hay is of an exhorses and showp. After passing through the winter the stock in this country looks bottoms as much as 200 tons of hay to the as well and in many cases better than those quarter section is cut annually, and in this that have been roughed in stock fields and vicinity the ranchmen do not attempt to straw stacks in eastern Nebraska.

hugging the delusion that Custer county is through the winter. The hay is what is a farming country, but-I find on careful in- called white top and is of as good a quality quiry that farming exclusively is not as or better than the Platte or Missouri botcommon here as formerly and stock raising tom hay or eastern Nebraska upland hay. is being added to almost every farm and with splendid results. To illustrate to what extent farming has been carried on here for shelter or protection but the sunny the past year I find that but about forty side of a sand hill, except at calving cars of wheat have been shipped from here season. bletonian, with three mammoth Kentucky be of a better grade in the future. Scrub stock is not being bred, as formerly,

Lands Open to Entry.

I met the Hon. James Whitehead, register of the land office here, and he informs me. that in this district, which is but one of eight in the state, there are still over 2,000,-000 acres of land subject to homestead entry, and over 10,000,000 acres in the state still open to homestead entry, but on most of this jand there is little or no hay, as all the choice hay claims have been taken up and the range contiguous is not worth homesteading, although it is fine grazing land and a quarter section of it will feed rom ten to fifteen head of cattle throughout the season with a little additional bay in the stormy winter weather. Water is not as serious an obstacle here as formerly, as wells and windmills furnish most of the water supply and sheet water is found at a depth varying from 50 to 350 feet. The land for the most part is rolling and rough and is. in fact, the east end of the sand hill country. To the southwest of here in McPherson county I am told there are still some cattle J. Plumer and saw what is said to be one ranges that are not overrun and also a few of the fincet ranches in the state. The

county, in the very heart of the sand hill Plumer is an English woman by birth and country, the conditions are different. There an amusing every is told of her fondness stock-raising is the exclusive industry, as for ranch life. She was called to Lendon

hay can still be found.

more, save an occasional valley or hay you will find anywhere. meadow. On each of these some settler has homesteaded and the meadows are all fenced as well as some of the ranges and by an unwritten law of the country, the range adtoining a hay claim or valley belongs to cellent quality and on many of the flats or keep cattle throughout the year without I made my first stop at Broken Bow, and hay. From one to one and a half tons are I find that Custer county people are still considered necessary to carry an animal

Cattle Not Shelfered.

Strange to say, cattle have no

when a small corral to in the past year and nothing clse in the used in which are kept the heavy springers way of grain, and yet this is the best or and these are carefully watched and as a largest shipping point in the county. Some result very little loss occurs either in eern has been shipped in. The creamery here winter or at calving time. On inquiry I is a large and growing industry and sup- found two reasons given for not sheltering plies many farmers with ready money. The the cattle. One is that in a storm the catprice of butter is 15 cents per pound, which the will hover under a shelter until they producer about 60 cents tramp each other to death and the other is per hundred-weight for milk. The that cattle with shelter will refuse to get unusually wet weather this spring out and rustle their living. The feeding has renewed the waning hopes that is done all through the winter by scattering this region is or will be a farming coun- the hay along the base of a sheltering sand Horses and hogs are both grown in bill in the lee of the bluff and I have quite large quantities and good horses are seen miles of these feeding grounds in this seiling for good prices, from \$60 to \$100 vicinity with cattle feeding on them, and each, according to quality. A large breed- it is an inspiring sight. High grade cattle ing farm is in operation here with three or are preferred to thoroughbreds for the reason four fine registered Percheron stallions, a that they are said to be better rustlers. couple of fine English sires and a fine Ham- However. I found that registered buils were used exclusively, and the Shorthorn and jacks. The quality of horses and mules will Hereford are the favorites. In fact, with one or two exceptions, I have found noth ing else and so far I have found no disposition on the part of the ranchmen to use one breed of cattle exclusively. After a few years of Herefords exclusively, the change to Shorthorns and vice versa. There seems to be difficulty to get bulle here that are good rustlers and acclimated as the fancy fed and show animals of castern breeders do not do as well as local brell animals, even grades, as the first year they do not do well here, after being taken off grain and put on grass and hay exclusivity as not a pound of grain is fed in this coun try. It has occurred to me that a small ranch here with exclusively registered stock either Shorthorns or Herefords that would breed bulls for sale would be a paying investment and would result in a market after the ranch was established that would require all the stock at fancy prices that a

> each twenty cows is the custom here. One of Finest Ranches in State.

registered ranch could supply. One bull to

I drove out to the cattle ranch of Dr. A places to the northwest where range and doctor is a graduate of an eastern medical ollege and left a chair in the faculty to At Hyannis, the county seat of Grant follow the occupation of a ranchman. Mrs.

the fact that it is difficult to get sufficient | had an opportunity to sell at a good figure eggs and butter for local consumption and and might have sold before he could hear vegetables are shipped in and the town from her. She immediately cabled him not does not boast of more than 300 population, to sell until she returned. On her return The cattle ranches are on a larger scale she stopped in Philadelphia on a visit, and val, and will be put with the cows the 1st he relapses into the same state of indifferthan those farther east and ranches with on returning to her home, twelve miles 500 head and more are the rule and not north of here and five miles from the near-WOMAN'S FONDNESS FOR OUTDOOR LIFE the exception, while some have as many as est neighbor, she remarked that "London ranch. .000 head and more, but it is an exclusive was too foggy and Philadelphia too stuffy. cow" country, as very few, if any sheep or and she proferred western life, where there borses are grown. The country north and was more room. Today they have as large outheast and west for fifty miles or more and handsomely furnished a fourteen-room bunch of cattle I have seen so far.

Cattle on the Range.

From seven to twenty men are employed and 2,000 cattle are ranged from May 1 to December 1. From December 1 to May 1 the cattle are fed the 3,000 tons of hay put up annually. Above 85 per cent of the cows raise calves annually, and a total loss to is furnished by eight windmills and six the places which were made brighter by eided leaning toward the habitations of flowing wells. The latter are 500 feet deep their presence a year ago. Among the first man. The robin must have its mate, for and each will water 200 head of cattle or They came, as they always do, in flocks, about the task of househunting soon after more. Where range is short, and in most and seemed to know just where to locate, the summer home has been reached. His the ranchmen have summer ranges some their homes last year are already occudistance from their winter and hay ranges, pled by the black advance agents of the where there is less hay and more range. Buffalo grass, bunch grass and black rost are the principal range grasses.

Branding of Cattle.

The range or ranchmen brand their cattle twice each year and each have a distinct that they are glad to be here again. They in Robinland, with the victorious combatsent and at the state capital. All the flocks, many often nesting in the same brands in the state are recorded and none tree. They never fight and live peaceful, tions for housekeeping. Her nest is built are duplicated. Each county paper pub- quiet lives, even through the days of after the regulation pattern, of straw and lishes the brands in the vicinity, for which courtship, a term which with some birds the stock men pay. The most amusing is productive of much discord and confeature of the opera house drop curtain, on firet which was a handsome ranch ecene painted beneath.

ranch for summer meat. The doctor breeds points of view. He ruffles his feathers, and stoops for that purpose. to Shorthorn bulls exclusively, after ex- and, like a dandy, misses no occasion to perience with Herefords. Twenty-eight of make his appearance striking, until he has these bulls are now on the place in a cor- made an impression on some female, when of June to prevent calves coming too carly. The doctor recently refused \$100,000 for his

Judge Stilson, county judge of Grant county, has a ranch stocked with 300 head of full-blood black polls, the best looking of them ever saw a pound of grain. W. S. RAKER.

MOVING TIME IN BURDLAND.

Returning from Winter Vacations.

Courting and Homebuilding. The moving season has begun in the bird world, reports the New York Tribune, and the country or to places where there are returning from their winter vacations to of their summer homes they show a dehirds to come back were the blackbirds he believes in domestic bliss, and he sets warm season

"Their variations were spent in the Caro- ing for a home, he fights hard. The lady seem to like company and are always in ant as the bridegroom-elect.

People who have had an opportunity to for a center piece, was a freeco of ranch- study the ways of the blackbird in the men's brands. About thirty or forty cows courting time know that, despite his love each painted with a frame about it, and the of peace, he is anxious to make conquests, brand on each cow with the owner's name and in these his plumage plays the impor-Dr. Plumer's ranch is fenced tant part. The male bird struts and hops with over seventy-five miles of fence and where the sun will show his feathers off

Bell-My brother asked me to get him an Easter solo. The title of it, I think, is Folded Hands." Nell-You mean "The Palms."

EXROUTE TO THE MUSIC STORE.

crease of salary. From her perch on a neighboring twig she encourages the perormers with a nod or a blink, and then with a chirp of approval goes to the master singer and becomes his mate as a reward for his superiority, and the disappointed competitors go in search of a more apprefative audience. The song sparrow's English cousin, who receives more abuse than praise, and is here n all seasons, has a less poetic method of woning, possibly because he has little poetry and no singing voice. He has no fine plumage and hatce to fight except for his personal rights, but he has domestic instincts, and, like every respectable bird, wants mate, and secures her by a peculiar mode of woning, which is really an exhibition of endurance. Mr. Sparrow shows by his oursehip that he is well qualified to be highly satisfactory husband and one who an endure any amount of henpecking. When he sparrow makes his bow before the bird whom he wishes to become Mrs. Sparrow he hope and skips about before her while the lady bird pecks and picks at him. When there are ecveral candidates for her favor she picks each one, and the hird which makes the least fuse and stands the abuse with the greatest composure is the one which carries off the prize. many of them have already come from the to examine the insurance man's wounds.

site is not always skilfully selected and often

comes within the reach of the emali boy.

When one hears a number of song spar

rows chirping sweetly at this time of the

year he may know that somewhere near by

a lady sparrow is the audience, and that the

concert is being given for her benefit; that

each singer is doing his been to outsing the

other because the reward will be more than

he applause of a large audience or an in-

The phoche bird, an industrious fly atcher, is also among the early birds, and

WESTERN NEBRASKA RANGES not a bushel of corn, wheat or cate is some years ago to settle up an estate, and enough hay land to cut 5.000 tons of hay to the best advantage. These look purple, south. They make their nests near country while gone her husband wrote her that he A small band of sheep are kept on the jet black, bronze and brown from various homes and often select corners on porches

MEN WHO BURN MONEY. Redeeming Partially Destroyed Bills at the Treasury Department.

often characterizes men whose faultless "While it cannot be stated that it is an dress was their distinguishing character-American habit to light lamps and gas with n.cney." explained an official of the re-The robin, which has also come for the demption division of the Treasury departseason, is more richly endowed by nature ment to a correspondent, "there are a number than the blackbird as to plumage, but who appear actually to have money to burn, is a succession of sand hills and nothing house, with all modern improvements, as of them are fit for boef right now, and none makes no effort at conquest by means of and who now and then burn it. There are his personal appearance. Fine feathers are more money burners, too, than come to the of no consequence in the eyes of Miss front and demand a redemption of their partially destroyed money, for some people These birds have many peculiar traits, hesitate before they are willing to appear They come from the south in pairs and in such an indefensible position. I don't singly, how and when nobody knows. The want to be understood as stating that it flight is usually made at night and a chirp occurs every day, for that probably would in the early morning is the first sign that be stretching it somewhat, but it is a facthe robins have come again. They go to that it occurs many more times than would exceed 3 per cent annually from all causes great numbers of the little wanderers are lawns or orchards, and in the selection the division last week, where a fellow lighted a match at the door of his room and from that lighted what he supposed was a piece of paper which he had in his pocket. He started with the lighted paper to find the gas jet. He found it, and as he blew out and many haunts which they chose as woolng is of a barbaric nature and requires his lighted paper he ascertained, to his surpise and disgust, that his taper was a \$10 bill, more than one-half of which had rey with another male bird in the presence been burned. In his communication to the of a female, and, knowing that he is fightsecretary of the treasury, to whom he was linas, Georgia and Florida, said John D. bird sits near by, apparently unconcerned advised to write, he admitted that he was a Hicks, who is a careful observer of the and unconscious of what is going on, but birds of this country. and their actions she always has an eye on the contest, the else, but said as grass was rather short when they come back here seem to say result of which is usually an engagement with him he would have to appeal for redemption. He furnished the necessary affidavits which under the law have to be filed in such cases, and a new bill was sent to him for the half-burned note which he sent in for redemption. Lots of times people mud, and the inner wall is made perfectly burn money, but make no claim for redempround by the pressure of the builder's body tion, supposing that they have no redress against the soft and pliable material. Mrs. in the matter. But the Tressury depart-Robin is an industrious housekeeper and ment does not as a rule hunt up trouble, works incessantly until the home is made so unless the claim is made none is sugready for occupancy. The nest is usually gested built in an out-of-the-way place, but the

currences, as where a \$1 dog puppy ate up than anything I know of." two-thirds of a \$5 note. 'The pup was of a owned it, 'and, though I saw him playing your hair?" with the note, I did not recognize it as | my backyard.' Later on when the puppy do that, now. So long.' got tired playing with it, the owner disself with a note which had by accident sty. fallen on the floor. The affidavits in the case were very amusing, but the man got his a sprained ankle." he mused. remnant of a note redeemed at its full a number of such cases the percentage of was ready with another one. women sufferers is so small that it can almost be said they don't lose money by using as lighters. I knew of a woman who on it and it will be gone in the morning." hoiled almost out of existence several bills. which, by some means, got in the fords of the leaves of a head of cabbage. The money dropped into her backet on the way from the market. The notes were pretty well wrecked, for the cabbage was being cut up when they were discovered, but there was enough left on which to base a redemp

He Guessed Wrong.

Brown-You seem Philadelphia Press: o be a heatler. I saw that life in surance agent go into your house this morning and less than half an bour after him came the doctor.

Smith-Well, what do you gather from that? Brown-Merely that you were in a great hurry to undergo the physical examination and have it over with.

TOLD HOW TO CURE A STY.

Hobbs Given a Variety of Remedies for His Affliction. When Hobbs came down to his office the other day, reports the Chicago Chronicle, the lower lid of his left eye looked angry and inflamed. It was swelled a trifle and was altogether out of sorts. His partner, Dillon, looked askance at it when Hobbs

opened up his roll-top deak. "That's a pretty had lamp you've got there, old man," he said. "Seem to be getting a sty, ain't you?" "I don't know," said Hobbs. "I guess I

caught cold in it. I noticed it first when I got up this morning." "Well, you mark my words," said Dillon,

'that is going to be a sty and you'll have a had time with it if you don't take care of it right now. I'll tell you what you want to do. Just rub it a while with a gold ring and it will go away in a day or co." "Is that so?" said Hobbs. "That's curious

I don't think it'll amount to much, though." And he went on with his work. The first time he called Mira Wilson to take a few letters the stenographer gave a

little start of astonishment. "Why, Mr. Hobbs, you're getting a sty." she declared. Mr. Hobbs murmured that it looked that way.

"I know an awfully good thing to cure it," she volunteered. "You just take a piece of string and tie it around the third finger of the opposite hand and the sty will go away." "Is that so?" said Mr. Hobbs. "Well, lan't that remarkable? It will go away anyhow,

"Why, I don't know," said Miss Wilson, rather embarrassed, "only I know that's good. My cousin did it and the sty went away in three days."

"Did you ever see a sty that didn't go away?" asked Mr. Hobbs, and Miss Wilson declined to pursue the matter fully.

When Hobbs went out to luncheon he met an old college chum on the corner, who cut short his calutations with an exclamation about the sty.

"I'll tell you what you want to do for that," he said. "Just go over there to the "I had a case somewhat in the same line drug store and get a nickel's worth of pulsarecently and there are frequent similar ce- tilla. That will k nock a sty out quicker

"What do you want with this stuff after playful disposition,' wrote the man who you get it?" asked Mr. Hobbs. "Rub it in

"No, no; it comes in the form of pills money. But he wen't play any more in and you take one every three hours. You

Mr. Hobbs went on to luncheon with a covered that the dog had been amusing him- smile at the idea of taking pills to cure a

These homeopaths would take pills for Eight other remedies were given Hobbs value. The lamp and gas-lighting people before he got home that day and when he

are by great odds in the mapority. Our of did land at his own steam coil his wife "Henry, that eye looks awful," she said. You just put a bread and milk poultice "Will it?" said Henry. But he didn't

do any of the things suggested and the sty was gone the post day. Then every one who suggested core congratulated him on having followed their advice and Hobbs was too generous to undeceive them.

the The Kind You Have Always Bough a Kind You Have Always Bought

Smith-You're wrong. The doctor came