

Live Stock.

Blood and Rocky Mountain bunch grass will tell. The fact that Montana raised running horses proves to be leaders on the turf is an assurance that our trotting bred horses raised here will be prize winners also. While we claim to have the best natural advantages in America for raising hardy, tough, healthy horses, we believe the best country for training our youngsters is the Pacific slope.

GOAT RANCHES.

There are upon our mountains and near the summit of our ranges a great number of highland dells that would make excellent goat ranches. The prairie ridges running down from the main ranges are always blown bare of snow in winter, and goats would winter well without danger of loss. Many of these locations are capable of sustaining from 300 to 1,000 goats and are still unclaimed. The good prices obtained for mohair by our pioneer goat men, Messrs. Elwell & Bates and Geo. Grayson, last year, should be an incentive to those of limited means to engage in the industry, and the locations spoken of could be utilized to a good advantage. We are confident this will be done when the choice locations on the frontier are taken, if not before.

LOOK AFTER THE COLTS.

There has been such mild weather the past month that many stockmen have come to the conclusion that the winter will amount to nothing, and have doubtless neglected giving due attention to young stock. Colts that have been allowed to run out on the range should at once be gathered up and examined. As a rule ranchmen do not give enough attention in this direction. If colts are in good health and have plenty of feed and open water they will thrive, but should they have become disordered, it may be easily discovered by haltering and handling the animals for a short time, and then the proper remedies should be applied for restoring health. Frequent handling will do them good. Our best horse raisers feed some chopped grain, and some of them find it advantageous to give oil cake. Colts thrive better when they can run loose in the field or pasture, than when kept tied up in a stall. When colts are kept in good growing condition they develop earlier and make better horses.

MONTANA HORSES.

The assertion that the Montana horse is destined, at no distant day to make him self known, is no idle boast. His superiority to horses grown elsewhere is already an established fact here in our Territory, and true merit cannot fail to make itself felt. When our Territory produces enough horses for them to make a showing on the thoroughfares and pleasure drives of eastern cities, their superior endurance, splendid hood, good muscles and long life will soon assert themselves and create a demand. Montana bunch grass seems to be peculiarly adapted to the making of good solid horse flesh, strong bone and tough sinew, and our attitude and pure air, gives good wind, while our open country so educates their vision as to give them superior eye sight over animals grown in most other countries. Our gravelly hills and roads makes the hoof hard and flinty, and hence lasts longer and is less given to disease than that of the low land horse. Such are our pastures, our soil, our products, our climate and the general surroundings that our horses are as near what the world wants as has yet been produced. This being the case, fortune certainly lies within the reach of our horse growers.

SHEEP HUSBANDRY.

It is a well known fact to all who have taken the trouble to bear the matter in mind, that the several branches of agriculture are continually fluctuating. First one is on the top and then another throughout the whole list. A few years ago sheep husbandry was on top, but every one knew it would not likely remain so. The history of the business was conclusive evidence that it could not. It is now down to the bottom and we are assured by the same authority that it is bound soon to rise again. In view of this fact operators in sheep should never think of selling now. The time to sell is when sheep are up and everybody wants to buy. Now is a good time, however, to buy; yet, just now it does not seem like so good an investment as it was. The prices obtained for wool this year were only moderate, and only such owners as were out of debt made money. But to make money at sheep husbandry it is necessary to go into the business for a period of ten years and to figure on the outcome, it is necessary to take the average price for the same term of years. The business is now probably seeing its darkest hours. Spring will bring an improved demand for wool and place the business upon a good footing once more.

ENDURANCE OF MONTANA HORSES.

Recently we had a social chat with Mr. Buford Farris, a Missouri breeder, who is one of the best posted men on matters pertaining to the breeding and raising of livestock in this Territory. During the course of our conversation—which ran largely on Short-horns—we asked his opinion about our climate for the breeding and raising of horses, relative to their staying qualities. He replied: "Montana's climate is the best in the world for raising horses. I have been convinced of this for a number of years and

have been talking it to the farmers. The performances of Montana raised horses fully demonstrate this." Then he referred to the feats of Gilt, Hickory Jim and Top Sawyer, runners, that are winning races throughout the States. He laid much stress upon the performances of Top Sawyer and Hickory Jim, better known to the Montana turfmen as "Sorrel Mike." Hickory Jim has made winnings in every State and Territory he has started in, and now at the advanced age of 16 years, is running in long races with good success, his latest feats being at Brigh-Beach, where he has shown himself capable of contesting first place in the society of the best horses on the turf. Top Sawyer, now but 3½ years old, is also leading the van on the Texas turf. Before bidding us adieu, Mr. Farris signified his intention to stock and equip a first-class horse ranch in this neighborhood for the purpose of breeding and raising runners from the best sires and dams to be had in Kentucky. He already has a nice band of this stock on his farm near Murryville, Missouri, which is to be transferred to his Montana breeding establishment.

POLLED-ANGUS VS. SHORT-HORNS.

Some time ago the HUSBANDMAN published an article, in which was recited the result of experiences with Polled-Angus cattle in this Territory. The article stated facts complimentary to this stock for this climate, and was extensively copied throughout the East and Canada. Seeing it so often quoted led some of the Short-horn raisers to conclude that we are prejudiced in favor of the Polled-Angus. This is a mistake. The HUSBANDMAN is in no ways prejudiced for any particular breed. The best information to be had on subjects pertaining to live stock, we glean from conversations with intelligent persons engaged in the business of stock raising; and they are given to the public for what they are worth. Recently we had a conversation with Mr. Wm. Gordon, of the Musselshell, a cattle owner of 16 years' experience, from whom much was gleaned relative to cattle raising. Touching the subject of Polled-Angus he expressed himself freely, coinciding fully with our article, which credited these cattle with being the best rustlers on the range in winter, and many other points of excellence. "But," said he, "I prefer to raise our grade Short-horns. They are not a stronger breed than the Polled-Angus and there is little or no difference in the size of them. But I have noticed that the Angus run too much, and do not take on fat as quick and well as our native cattle. Polled-Angus steers that are pure bloods, raised upon our range the same age and size of our grade steers, are deficient from 100 to 150 pounds when they reach the market scales. The cattle, I believe, are of a gentle disposition, but when turned out upon our ranges they become quite wild, and from some cause or other do not take on fat like the Short-horns. What we Montana growers want is cattle that will make the most beef, and I am satisfied that our native stock beat any yet introduced." Mr. Gordon being very fair in his criticism, admitted in the course of his talk that the Polled-Angus were destined to become very popular with growers in this country. Enough had not been seen of the cattle here to determine the quality of the offspring from our natives bred to Polled bulls, and he thought that this cross might yet prove to be a superior kind for range cattle. As to Herefords he had no experience, and therefore had nothing to say.

HOW LONG CAN RANGE HUSBANDRY LAST?

The question is one that has suggested itself many times to our large cattle owners. That it is doomed some time to become circumscribed by agriculture, and come gradually down to the domestic system of stock raising, all are willing to admit; yet, just how long it will be before such a state of affairs is brought about, is hard to guess. The pioneers of the Mississippi valley remember when cattle roamed over the hills, threaded the thickets and cane breaks and subsisted upon rushes the year round through half the length of the Missouri and Mississippi. But the increase of population soon changed this state of things. In Texas we see civilization driving the cattle herds before it back upon the steppes of the western border, and reason teaches us that this is only a question of time when the great American plains will become the home of the farmer, and when by the fencing of the valley and water courses the vast ranges of this region will become limited and suited only to summer grazing. But how long it will take for such an era to come about, we cannot quite estimate. When there is stock enough upon the commons to graze off the grass in summer any one can readily see that there will be no show for an animal to live in winter, and with the rapid increase of our herds we can readily see that each year is bringing us nearer such an epoch. If our ranges, or rather our herds could be controlled as if by one man, it would be very easy to perpetuate the system of husbandry for many years, since the herds would be decreased to correspond with the range. But the wild rush of cattle to our own Territory from the States tell too plainly our ranges must soon become overdone, and as this comes about profits will grow less as losses will be greater. It is possible for a few leading owners to perpetuate their business for a long time by buying up the lands along the creeks of illy watered ranges, and we know of no other method, for if left to the natural turn of events, twenty and perhaps ten more years will find their

occupation robbed of its profits, if not gone. But the man who will go to a new range and possess all he can of it may make his business permanent. He may not be able to possess enough to sustain as much stock as he might wish, but he can have enough to retain a lucrative business. The old theory that the cattleman needed only a cabin, and that he could move on when pressed by the plow-share, meant a sure and speedy end to his business. His only hope is to build a home, and by the purchase of the arable lands, the possession of water-rights, etc., defy the encroachment of settlers. Our cattlemen laughed when we pointed out to them, six or eight years ago, that this was the policy of the wool grower, and that it was their only show to hold their own against these and the general farmer. But the majority of them are ready to coincide with us now. They see, as we do, that it is the only plan to adopt, that otherwise range husbandry must give way, as it has in all other countries, to the tiller of the soil. The wise will fortify themselves now while they may.

THE BAD LANDS.

This is a region of country from which our cattle herds will be slow to retreat. It is claimed, and probably correctly so, that they are fine wheat lands; but, as a rule they are so broken that it is not at all likely that they will be molested by the plowshare for many years to come. As a home for the shepherd they are a failure. The adobe nature of the soil gives sheep the footrot during the rainy season of the spring, and flock-masters who have tried such locations, are heartily sick of them. Sheep will not molest the cattle herds on these ranges to any extent and neither will our horse herds. It is necessary for horse growers to keep well within the limits of the settlements to prevent their stock from being all run off by thieves. It is therefore very plain that the bad lands will be occupied exclusively by cattle. They afford excellent range, though there are so many alkali bogs that it keeps the cowboys on the go in the spring to keep the cattle out of the mire. They afford a most excellent winter range, and taken altogether cattle men succeed fully as well on these lands as elsewhere.

TOP SAWYER IN TEXAS.

From the reports that come up from the Texas circuit this young, Montana-raised horse, is opening the eyes of the sporting people in the Lone Star State. He is only three and one-half years old, but it appears that he is not afraid to start in the free for all ages. At Waco, November 21, in a race of a mile and one-eighth, for a purse of \$300 he carried 115 pounds, and won in 2:00.

At San Antonio, the second day of the races—November 26, he was again victorious. A correspondent of the *Spirit of the Times*, speaks of the race in the following style: "Probably few better races are seen anywhere, at least none that have been more hotly contested, than the mile heat race, for all ages, that followed the pace. There were five starters, Belle B., Virgie Hearne, Top Sawyer, John Sullivan, and Effie H. Every owner backed his horse, and up to the ending it was 'anybody's race.' Sullivan sold for \$40; Top Sawyer, \$22; Virgie Hearne, \$8; Belle B., \$6, and Effie H., \$8. The betting was up into thousands, and 'the tips' were out on every horse. Belle B. and Effie H. ran together to the half, then the former led away from Effie H., who had been accidentally 'cut down' by Sullivan in attempting to pass, and a hot pace was being run between Sullivan and Belle B. They succeeded in pumping each other out by the time they reached the middle of the stretch, and Top Sawyer came through the bunch like a rocket, passed both, and won the heat amid the wildest excitement, in 1:45. Sullivan second, Belle B. third. Pools sold after the heat: Sullivan, \$20; field, \$24, both ends being taken as fast as Herdic could sell. All came to the post looking like race horses, and long odds were offered that Sawyer would not take the next heat. What a scramble it was! First one would gain a half head, then fall back again. They were all well bunched to the head of the stretch, when a fighting finish commenced between Sawyer, Belle B., and Sullivan. Belle B. dropped back at the eighth pole, and then Campbell, on 'the slugger's' namesake, and O'Hara on Sawyer, did some of the tallest kind of exercising. Both appeared to be made up of nothing but arms and legs, so energetically were they applying both whip and spur. At no time in six months have I seen Sawyer so completely 'at himself' as in this race. He ran in Sullivan to beat him, though he ran as gamely as an out-classed horse could, and Sawyer came under the wire nearly two-thirds of a length ahead, making the best record of any mile heat race through the circuit. Sullivan second, Belle B. third. Time, 1:45½."

On December 3 he won a race of two heats. Time: 1:49 and 1:59½.

Probably his greatest feat of the season was on the last day of the fair in which he ran in a mile and a half heat race against Miss Goodrich and Sullivan, winning by a full half length, in 2:44; Sullivan second.

Top Sawyer is by Tom Sawyer, first dam by Gilroy, son of Lexington, dam by Glencoe. Tom Sawyer is by Imp. Harrington, dam, Ella Jackson by Lightning, son of Lexington.

The owner of Top Sawyer is Buford Farris, an extensive breeder who, for the past thirteen years, has made annual visits to Montana, and has at length settled upon the plan of establishing a breeding farm here of which Top Sawyer is to be the Chief.

RUSSIA'S WOOL PRODUCTION.

Consul Van Riper, at Moscow, in a late report, discusses the wool production of Russia, which, he intimates, is of interest, in that it is one of the principal exports from Russia to the United States. The well known Russia carpet wool is "a product of the southeastern Governments," and "not to be found equal in length in any other part of the world." The next best in quality are the "Donskoi fleeces," to be found in the steppes on both sides of the river Don. Savoiga fleeces are becoming rare, as the Government has gradually driven its cultivators off from the good grazing lands along the Volga to a more sterile territory. Moscow is the Russia wool market. "Owing to the direct and growing relations between America and Russia, the time has arrived" when it would be more advantageous to American merchants and manufacturers to purchase their necessary quantities "direct" as importing firms in New York, Philadelphia and Boston have already done. Germany and England are active competitors for this trade. Wool is generally very loosely packed, but the attention of shippers has been called to the importance of packing more carefully, as the Atlantic steamers charge by measurement and not by weight; and another advantage is, that proper packing protects the wool against undue moisture.



JAMES FERGUS & SON.

P. O. Address—Fort Maginnis.

Range—Box Elder, and Armells creeks.

Kar-marks—Crop and under bit from right ear. Vent—F upside down over bar. Horses branded F on right shoulder.



MONTANA CATTLE CO.

Range—American Fork Musselshell valley. Post-office address—Martinsdale, Meagher county, Montana, and Helena, Montana.

Also, owners of cattle bearing the following brands, and owners of the brands:

T on left side or ribs. A on left side or ribs. T on left side or ribs. A on left hip and T on left side.



WM. WALLACE.

Range—Musselshell.

P. O. Address—New Chicago.

Wallet on each jaw of musk herd; also owner of cattle brand ed W on right side; also cattle marked underbit in left and crop in right ear, branded 6 on right hip; also cattle marked underbit in left and crop of right ear, branded JH (combined) on hip and side; and others branded F on left hip and shoulder:



WILLIAMS & CALLAWAY.

BREEDER AND DEALERS OF

Pure Short-Horn and Grade Cattle

Breeding to milk strains a specialty. A fine lot of Grade and Thoroughbred bulls for sale.



Range—Upper Ruby valley, between the canyons.

P. O.—Virginia City and Puller's Springs.

Mark—Over-bit in each ear, and pendant metal tag on either ear. T on left side, over ribs, on hip.

200 HEAD

—OF—

Horses For Sale.

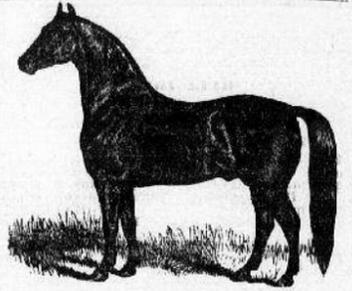
Buggy and Carriage teams well mated, Draft horses single or in pairs; well broke saddle horses, all good American stock. Also a choice lot of mares, colts, yearlings, and a good stallion, at a bargain.

MRS. J. G. SARTER, Fort Logan, M. T.

DAIRY AND SHEEP RANCH FOR SALE.

One hundred and sixty acres of fine meadow land, all under a substantial fence well improved, convenient to the finest range on Smith river and can never be fenced out from range privileges; also fine spring affording all water necessary to run a large dairy. The above will be sold at a bargain. Apply to or address

JOSEPH GARRETT, Fort Logan, Mont.



HUNTLEY & CLARKE, RIVER SIDE Stock Farm.

JEFFERSON COUNTY, M. T.

BREEDERS OF

Trotting Horses and Roadsters of High Merit, with Fashionable Pedigrees.

Also breeders of

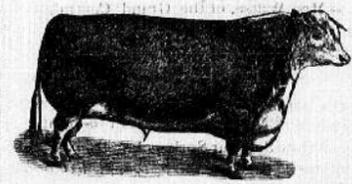
Grade Stock and Draft Horses.

We keep constantly on hand for sale, at reasonable prices, young stallions, fillies and brood mares of the most approved trotting and thoroughbred crosses; also driving teams and work horses. Inquiries promptly answered.

Send for Catalogue.

GADDIS & BRYAN,

BREEDERS OF



Thoroughbred and Grade Herefords.

YOUNG STOCK FOR SALE.

Brand—Quarter circle F on left side. Same for horses, on left thigh.

Ranch, five miles south of White Sulphur Springs.

P. O. Address—Fort Logan or White Sulphur Springs.



T. J. FLEMING.

Range—Smith river valley, from Camp Baker to Kim Rock mountain.

P. O.—Diamond City

Sheep! Sheep!



800 Head of Rams For Sale

Thoroughbred Cotswold and Merinos, Cross-breds of pure Merino and Cotswolds; also Rams of Merino, Cotswold, and Merino.

These sheep are from the best flocks in Wisconsin, Vermont, and Canada.

COOK & HUSSEY, P. O. Address—Unity and White Sulphur Springs, Montana.

PARIS GIBSON & SON,



FORT BENTON, M. T.,

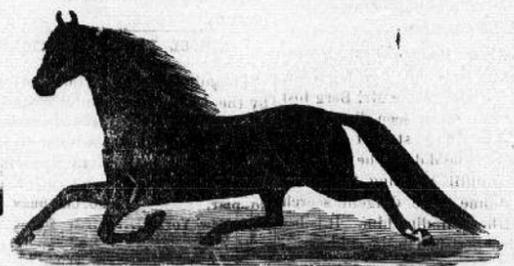
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Pure Blooded Merinos and Shropshire Downs a Specialty.

THE DIAMOND SPRINGS RANCH COMPANY.

Situated ten Miles from Helena.)



Trotting Stock, Short-Horn and Jersey Cattle, and Registered Berkshire Hogs.

The following Stallions for Service during the season of 1884-5:

Mambrino Diamond, (1898) Public Record, 2:30; Private Record, one mile, 2:24½; Half mile, 1:08½. by Mambrino Patchen (full brother to Lady Thorne, 2:18.) Dam Black Grl, by Cassius M. Clay.

Northward, (2759) by Volunteer Star, by Volunteer, by Rysdyk's Hambletonian; Dam, Lady Duroc, by Pilot Duroc, son of Pilot Jr., sire of dam of Maid S. and Jay-Eye-See.

Also for sale, finely bred brood mares sired to the above named stallions. For further particulars apply to

Helena, Montana.

J. S. CROSBY & CO.