

The Backbone Land Grant.

The interesting interview with ex-Congressman Lewis, printed in the States of yesterday, leaves not the shadow of a doubt that the issue, by Secretary Teller, of the patents for over 700,000 acres of land to the Texas Pacific railroad, claimed from the old Backbone Company, was a scandalously corrupt job.

If the railroad company had a legal claim to this land there was no necessity for the indecent haste in which these patents were issued in the last days of the late administration. There was no reason to assume that Mr. Cleveland's administration would attempt to defraud the company, or seek to impair any of its legally acquired rights.

There was every reason, however, to know that that administration would inquire into this and other land grabs, and prevent the consummation of any scandalous transaction to defraud the government and the settlers upon the public domain of their rights and property.

Hence, the furious haste with which these patents were issued by Teller stamps this land grant as an outrageous grab, by which the country has been robbed of vast areas of valuable lands, and many thousands of persons, who trusting in the justness of the government, settled upon these lands, have been subjected to the mercy of a soulless and monster corporation.

But this transaction was a fitting one for the Republican party to terminate its long régime with. Under the patronage of that party great corporations, monopolies and rings flourished as they never flourished in the worst days of the Roman empire, and the people have had no rights that rings and combinations of capitalists were held to respect.

Mr. Arthur's administration has been paraded as at least a clean one, and yet in its expiring moments each and every member of it united in stealing a million acres of land from the Government, and placing in jeopardy the rights of many thousands of poor citizens for the benefit of a railroad company.

But as Mr. Arthur closed his administration by an act in accord with the whole history of his party, so has Mr. Cleveland opened his by a fitting counter-move in the interest of the Government, and these same people. So soon as the facts of this scandalous job were brought to the attention of the Democratic administration, the new Secretary of the Interior, Mr. Lamar, promptly ordered the suspension of the further issue of patents in this case, and he at least secured from the grip of Gould and his confederates 300,000 acres of the one million it was attempted to gobble.

This places the two Presidents and the two Secretaries and the two parties in their proper light. The retiring administration is passing into history with its hands soiled with a dirty job, its garments bedraggled in corruption, while the Democratic administration begins its auspicious career by crushing whatever of a great job has not been consummated, securing to the Government a large amount of property, and, as far as possible, protecting the rights and interests of a large number of citizens.

Mrs. J. Lucas, of Philadelphia, has been appointed by Commissioner Loring superintendent of the Silk Experimenting Station, at a salary of \$100 per month. She is also authorized to expend \$2500 upon vouchers certified by herself.

Killing Cattle and Hogs.

THE IMPROVED METHODS EMPLOYED BY PRACTICED BUTCHERS.

Chicago Tribune.

The killing of cattle is usually attended with an altogether unnecessary degree of cruelty. Not unfrequently a number of heavy blows upon the forehead of a beast fails to even stun it, but every one of the blows inflicts needless suffering.

Dr. Phares relates a case which illustrates this: "An old polled beef-animal was tied and received many heavy blows in the face from a heavy ax wielded by the athletic arms of several parties in succession without bringing him down."

The cause of the instant death of the animal was that the blow was struck in the right place and in the right direction to reach the "vital knot," which is that bit of gray matter found where the brain is contracted to pass from the skull into the backbone.

A true copy: WILL A. STRONG, Secretary of State. Sec. 980. Revised Statutes 1870.—Every person being adjudged to pay a fine, shall in default of payment or recovery thereof, be sentenced to be imprisoned for a period not exceeding one year.

The vexed question of Mary Anderson's age seems to have been definitely settled. In the office of the clerk of the Circuit Court at Louisville a reporter of the Courier-Journal was recently shown the official record in the case of the adoption of Mary Anderson—or Mary A. Anderson, as she appears there—by her stepfather, Dr. Hamilton Griffin, who in the character of her agent has unconsciously furnished much amusement to two continents.

The people of the town of New Philadelphia, O., are greatly perplexed over the relationship of a family residing there. It seems that a widower married a widow with a grown daughter, and he had a young son. His brother married his step-daughter, and to them a daughter was born.

The industries man who works along steadily in the regular line of his occupation will be better off at the end of any five or ten years than the average of holders of subordinate offices, just as the man who works methodically on his farm will be better off than nineteen out of twenty who dig spasmodically in gold mines.

The Cabinet is not essentially a young one. Bayard is 56, Manning 54, Lamar 53, Garland 53, Bland 53, Vilas 45, Whitney 43.

Law for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals.

ACT No. 24.—Extra Session 1878-9.—To amend and re-enact section 816 of the Revised Statutes of the State of Louisiana, 1879.

SEC. 1. Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the State of Louisiana in General Assembly convened, That section eight hundred and sixteen of the Revised Statutes of the State shall be amended and re-enacted so as to read as follows:

SEC. 816. Whoever shall, wantonly or maliciously, cruelly beat, maim, disable, starve or otherwise ill-treat any domesticated animal, including those specified in the foregoing sections, shall, upon conviction, be fined not exceeding \$100, or imprisoned not exceeding three months, or both, at the discretion of the court.

(Signed) JOHN C. MONCURE, Speaker of the House of Representatives.

(Signed) LOUIS A. WILZ, Lieutenant Governor and President of the Senate.

FRANCIS T. NICHOLS, Governor of the State of Louisiana.

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A writer in the Southern Farmer says that his cow gives all the milk that is wanted in a family of eight, and that from it, after taking all that is required for other purposes, 260 pounds of butter were made this year.

Lord Dufferin is of the opinion that the diplomacy of the world will soon be in the hands of Americans. Nearly every member of the diplomatic corps that gets to Washington, he says, tries to bring home an American wife.

The lady managers of the Confederate bazar, which is shortly to be held in Baltimore, acknowledge the receipt of contributions from this city.

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From the sources arise three-fourths of the diseases of man. Loss of appetite, bowels existence, Sick Headache, falls after eating, aversion to exertion of body or mind, Erection of food, irritability of temper, Low spirits, a feeling of having neglected some duty, Dizziness, Fluttering at the Heart, Dots before the eyes, highly colored urine, etc., are all symptoms of a diseased Liver.

THE PEOPLE OF THE TOWN OF NEW PHILADELPHIA, O., are greatly perplexed over the relationship of a family residing there. It seems that a widower married a widow with a grown daughter, and he had a young son.

Civil Service Examiner for the situation of colored applicant for the situation of letter-carrier.—"State the distance from London, England, to Calcutta, India, via the Suez Canal." Colored Applicant—"Say, boss, ef y'ose gwine ter put me on that route, you kin dismember my applicahun offen de book."—Ex.

The universities of Oxford and Cambridge have the reputation of being hotbeds of slang. It is said that nine-tenths of the slang words heard in England to-day came from these institutions.

An Every Day Occurrence.

Once upon a time a Donkey fell into a deep hole, and, after nearly starving, caught sight of a passing Fox, and implored the stranger to help him out.

"I am too small to aid you," said the Fox, "but I will give you some good advice. Only a few rods away is a big strong elephant. Call to him, he will get you out in a jiffy."

After the Fox had gone the Donkey thus reasoned to himself: "I am very weak for want of nourishment. Every move I make is just so much additional loss of strength. If I raise my voice to call the elephant I shall be weaker yet. No, I will not waste my substance that way. It is the duty of the elephant to come without calling."

So the Donkey settled himself back and eventually starved to death.

Long afterwards the Fox on passing the hole saw within it a whitening skeleton, and remarked: "If it be true that the souls of animals are transmigrated into men, that Donkey will become one of those merchants who can never afford to advertise."—Philadelphia Call.

President Cleveland's inaugural address will command general attention for its brevity, conciseness and felicity of expression. It is the address of a scholarly mind, and of a citizen who has thought profoundly and who evidently feels the responsibility of the great duties to be discharged of which he has been called by his country.

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