WESTERN CATTLE RAISING.

Interesting Facts Concerning the Life of the Herder—In a Storm.

From the St. Louis Republican.

Nearly all the cattle men of Wyoming are getting out of Texas cattle, and are breeding up their cow herds and getting young stock from the extreme Western country—Idaho, Oregon, and Washington Territory. The drive from the above points into Wyoming this year has been about 150,000 head, which found a ready market.

All the country lying north of the Union Pacific Railroad is considered better than the country south of it, on account of grass, winter range, and water. The loss to stock in that country per year is very light, not being over 2 per cent; in this country it has sometimes reaching 5 per to 5 per cent, and very seldom reaching 5 per cent. A ranch is run at comparatively very small expense. A ranch of five thousand head can be run for one year at an expense of $1 per head. With a ranch of ten thousand head the cost would average from seventy-five to eighty cents per head, and twenty-five thousand head would cost much over fifty cents a head. It never cost much over fifty cents a head, say for five thousand cattle to run a ranch, say for five thousand head, about four men during the winter months and ten men during the summer. It is generally estimated that they require two horses for every hundred head of cattle, which gives to each man about ten horses during the summer.

There is nothing afoot in that country. Everything is done on horseback. Horseflesh is the cheapest muscle that can be employed. A stock ranch is better off with ten men and one hundred horses than with twenty-five men and fifty horses. The horses are ridden until they become tired out; then a fresh horse is taken until the cow boy uses all the horses allotted to him; then he begins again with the horse at first tired out. Each ranch has a trusty foreman, whose wages are about $1,000 per annum "and found." The ordinary herdsmen get about $30 per month and found. They are a rough, hardy, industrious set of men, and generally very trusty. The common dead beat is not going out there to rough it. It is a good school for temperance and the absence of dissipation, and the men generally lay up money. There is no stabling, no sheds for the winter. The cattle run just as the buffalo used to do. There is no hay to be cut and garnered for the winter. The cattle do their own mowing from one year's end to the other.

In the Eastern States it has been said that the pitchfork has to be handled by the farmer about nine months in the year. In the summer the new-mown hay has to be spread, turned, put into cocks, and loaded up and unloaded into stacks and mows, and during the six winter months it is used as fodder.

In Wyoming the cattle during winter drift from fifty to seventy-five miles from their respective summer ranges. During a cold storm they generally move with the wind, keep going until they get into a sheltered place in some ravine or behind a ledge, travelling sometimes in this way twenty-five miles during a heavy storm.

But whatever distance they may stray during the winter, when spring comes they are all found during the general "round-up" or general gathering up, when they are driven back to their respective ranges without loss, where the herdsmen attend them until the winter sets in again. At one "round-up" last spring there were thirty-five men, thirty wagons, and twelve hundred horses. That "round-up" is run by a regular organization, and is commanded by a captain whose orders are implicitly obeyed. The having entire charge over the operations. The cattle are all separated according to the brands denoting their owners, and then started back to their ranges. The calves are also branded and again turned loose with the herd.

The operation of collecting, separating, and branding at a round-up occupies about two months before the cattle are got back, during which the whole country is scoured by the cow boys. It is generally a time of wild and boisterous excitement, reminding one of the annual assemblages of the old fur traders when they met to exchange their peltries for supplies brought up from St. Louis.

Solid Progress in the South.

From the Atlanta Sunday Gazette.

The facts in the case of the State of Georgia show conclusively that the colored population are making very excellent progress in the acquisition of property; and hence the charge that they are being kept in the background, and that they are held down by their old owners, is not one which can be sustained. The report of the Comptroller shows that the colored people of Georgia pay taxes on nearly $600,000 in one year. In the city of Atlanta the negroes pay taxes on a quarter of a million. In the matter of education, the advantages, if any, owing to the contributions of Northern people, are rather in favor of the colored people. They have just the same privilege as the whites. There are in Atlanta two large universities, one of which is supported by the State, and one theological seminary, all of which are for the blacks. In the public schools of the State there are about 80,000 colored children; and in the entire South the number of this class in the public schools is over three-quarters of a million. There is a public library in Atlanta, which is for the use of the negroes, and which has the moral and financial support of the best citizens.

Some statistics are given in regard to the material progress of the South which are full of meaning, in that they refute the calumnies of those who, in order to create prejudice against that section, constantly assert that it is falling behind in production. The cotton product has increased over 1,500,000 bales since the war, and the number of cotton spindles within the same period has grown from 186,000 to nearly 800,000. "And," asks Mr. Bishop Rose, "how is it that our iron furnaces, which have generally remained in blast during the recent severe panics, are already a potent factor in the calculations of the iron world?" The year before the breaking out of the war was one in which the cotton product reached its greatest dimensions; and if it be the fact that cotton was then king, how is it now when it has increased over a million and a half bales—when it has become this much greater than it was at that time when it was the recognized monarch among modern products? According to a statistician in Boston, the cotton crop for the last ten years is equal to the amount of the national debt at the close of the war, or some $3,000,000,000. This enormous product is all due to the South; and to it should be added the millions which have come from the growth of rice, sugar, and tobacco.

Making Stage Thunder.

From the Court Journal.

Not long ago thunder was imitated in French theatres by a barrow with polycomal wheels rolled along the corridors in the flies. At present the imitation is much more perfect. The distant roll is produced by shaking a large sheet of iron, while a mass hung in pendel by a pulley a string of iron rings and cask staves which are shaken at times and then dropped on the floor of the great thunder-clap.

Meyerbeer imagined a thunder of a different kind for his opera of the "Pardon de Ploermel." This was a long square box of planks like those used by bricklayers and masons for throwing down their mortar to the boys below. A chimney of that kind descended from the upper story of the theatre to the stage, and down it was thrown a large piece of stone and brick, which rolled with a rumbling sound and then fell within a crash.

Torrents of hypodermic limited and shaken give the brilliant effects of artificial lightning. The pattering of rain and hail is produced by pebbles shaken in a metal cylinder, snow, by shreds of paper and wadding thrown from the flies on the stage.

But in the "Deluge Universelle," played at the Chatelet about fifteen years, rain was imitated by a very transparent green curtain streaked with silver threads, on which eight hundred gas jets were placed. The effect of rain is produced naturally by a sheet of water the entire breadth of the stage, falling from the flies, and on which light is made to play.

What Finally Persuaded the Mule.

From the Newark Sunday Call.

A gaunt and wicked-looking mule belonging to a farmer who boarded in River street yesterday after noon, and the usual crowd gathered to offer advice and present claims for moving the animal. Various expedients were tried such as twisting his tail and putting dirt into his ears, etc., and the mule, but he refused to budge. Recourse was resorted to to induce the treatment of the operators, even with a kick. They were about to build a stage for him, when a salesman coming in the neighborhood offered to bet five dollars that he could make him go. And there being no takers, concluded to do it just for the sake of showing his knowledge of mules. He took from his pocket a piece of Rivers street "Tanglefoot" and moved a little on the coarse mule's mouth. In a second afterward there was black astonishment in every features of that animal's countenance, and the next instant he bounced sideways and shot down the River street with the driver at his rear. The bet was decided in favor of the street salesman.

Spanish Ladies Smoking.

From the Cincinnati Gazette.

Mr. Frederic Ward, the author of "Ten Years in Spain," says that the Spanish ladies smoke cigarettes, and that they do it very prettily. Mr. Ward says that he has seen a lady smoking a cigarette in the Prado, and that it was a very pretty sight. The lady was young and very pretty, and she was dressed in the extreme of the fashion. She was sitting in a carriage with a gentleman, and she had a cigarette between her lips, and was puffing the smoke from it in a very pretty way. Mr. Ward says that he has seen a lady smoking a cigarette in a box at the theatre, and that it was a very pretty sight. The lady was very pretty, and she was dressed in the extreme of the fashion. She was sitting in a box