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It is stated that the republicans will contest the election of Kentucky's single Bryan elector.

The Oklahoma Press Association meets in adjourned session at Guthrie on January 12.

In the Pabst brewery at Milwaukee is a machine which corks, wires and caps 16,000 bottles of beer per day automatically.

It is a fact not known to everybody that the annual product of the little scratching hen is far more valuable in the United States than the yearly production of wheat, corn, iron, or anything else.

It requires only twelve dollars a year to maintain an orphan in Armenia. This may explain the cordial encouragement which the Sultan is extending to the creation of widows and fatherless children in that country.—Star.

Dennis Flynn has invited Tom Reed, Mark Hanna and several other big guns to spend the holidays hunting in Oklahoma, and the invitation will probably be accepted. The aforesaid big guns had better post up a little on the game law before they commence.

There are six or seven applicants for the position of governor of Oklahoma. There seems to be a strong sentiment in favor of Dennis Flynn, who has said that he is not a candidate but would accept if appointed. Some of the papers seem to think that he is as good as appointed. Flynn has made a good congressman.

Thousands of Americans are willing and anxious to go to Cuba and fight the Spaniards since Maceo's murder. In Denver alone a company of one thousand men have got together and, if they can not procure horses, propose to march to Tampa, Florida, and get across the strait any way they can.

In the legal contest for the \$10,000 purse hung up for the Fitzsimmons-Sharkey glove contest, the court decided that the case did not come under its jurisdiction and it was thrown out, after enough evidence had been taken to prove that Fitzsimmons had been made the victim of a rusk steal.

An exchange remarks: It is recorded that Noah was the first advertiser. He advertised the flood and it came through all right. The fellow who laughed at his advertising drowned. Ever since Noah's time the advertiser has been prosperous, while the other fellow has been struggling to keep his head above the flood of disaster.

The convention which met at Little Rock, Ark., last week to devise ways and means of improving the Arkansas river, so as to make it navigable for steamboats, resolved to petition Congress to make an appropriation for that purpose. After they get steamboats to running up as far as Garden City we will take steps to have the sand scooped out of the river and enough water poured in to make it navigable for middle-sized steamers and schooners as far up as the Mexican settlement.

A correspondent for the National Stockman says that he can dehorn 100 calves for ten cents. He takes the calf when he is from three to five days old, uses a pair of shears, and clips the hair over the nub about the size of a nickel, dangles, but not enough to run down the side of the head. He then puts concentrated lye, about on the nub, rubbing a little with the finger and the job is done. This will form a scab which will come off itself. He says he has never failed with this method, and it is not so cruel as cutting off the horns.

A writer in Science has set himself to answer the question, "Is the rainfall increasing upon the plains?" After a careful inspection of all available data he is of the opinion that there has been no increase of rainfall on the plains since they began to be settled up by the farmers. The truth is that, as the writer shows, that the prevalent ideas about the amount of rainfall necessary for farming operations of a certain class, such as the raising of forage and vine crops, were erroneous. A rainfall of twenty inches a year is not an indispensable minimum. The crops named can get along with ten, and it remains to be seen if even less will not answer. They have found that however slight the rainfall may be, it can be greatly conserved by cultivation. When the plains are plowed and harrowed the rains sink into the ground, and its evaporation is prevented by the crops whose roots it feeds.

The cheerful liar who runs the Gove (Kansas) Leader, and who is none other than Tom Kirtley, formerly of Beaver, gets off the following: "Perpetual motion has at last been discovered. On a quarter of a section of land an enterprising Kansas firm will establish 1,000 black cats and 5,000 rats on which to feed the cats. It is estimated that the cats will increase 1,500 in two years. The black cat skins are worth \$1 each. The rats will multiply five times as fast as the cats. The rats will be used to feed the cats and the skinned cats to feed the rats."

A practical use has at last been found for the jack rabbit. He is being slaughtered by the hundred on the plains of western Kansas and shipped in car lots to Kansas City and other towns, to be given to the poor denizens of the cities who cannot afford turkey. It is the custom to take two wagons, to which is tied a long wire, one end to each wagon, and travel around over the prairie and in the bottoms, the hunters following close behind the wire and shooting the long-legged Brer Jonathan when he rises. Two wagon loads is considered a good day's work for a party of four hunters. Where jack rabbits are plentiful the people would about as soon eat mule meat, but in the east, where they are scarce, they are considered "good eating."

Guthrie, O. T., Dec. 18.—The Department of the Interior has sent trappers out to try to locate a missing band of Kickapoo Indians, about fifty in number, who a month ago received permission to go to the Wichita reservation to get from the canebrakes a supply of the reeds they use in making their houses. They stopped in the reservation but a short time and then went on west, and it is now believed that they have gone to Mexico, where the entire tribe was in hiding from the government many months some years ago and were brought back at large expense.

Jeff Davis, although gone, is not forgotten by some of his former adherents in the south, as is shown by the returns for presidential electors at the election held on November 3.

According to the provisions of an act of congress the secretary of state has filed the certificates of the governor of Arkansas, showing that he has canvassed and added up the votes cast for the office of presidential and vice presidential electors at the election in the several counties of Arkansas on November 3. After the names of the eight electors who received the largest number of votes cast, giving the state to Bryan, there appears the name of "Jeff Davis," with eighty-six votes to his credit as an elector for president and vice president.

It has been a matter of current history for many years that some of the old dyed-in-the-wool democrats are still voting for Andrew Jackson in the back woods of Kentucky and Tennessee, but it remains for Arkansas to take a new departure by casting votes for the alleged president of the defunct confederacy.—Chicago Tribune.

Corustalks not Worthless. Washington, Dec. 18.—Cramp, the Philadelphia ship builder, began two years ago making extensive and expensive experiments for the manufacture of smokeless gunpowder and also cellulose, with which to line ships, and incidental to the researches in that field the people he employed have discovered various uses to which the corustalk could be applied, which, he declares, will raise the value of corn not less than \$5 per acre per annum.

Cramp, in conversation with Senator Thurston, stated that the elements entering into the composition of the stalk of the corn could be used for the production of alcohol, cellulose, mattings, carpets, paper, smokeless powder, and a food for cattle, superior to anything now in the market, besides other things which he could hardly enumerate.

To Make the Desert Bloom. Denver, Col., Dec. 18.—If the plans that are now being formulated by the railroad companies can be successfully carried out, the arid eastern section of Colorado and the western section of Nebraska and Kansas will be converted into fruitful farm land. As explained by W. W. Luerger, land inspector of the Union Pacific Railway Company, the railroad officials propose to introduce varieties of agricultural and horticultural plants that are adapted to the soil of "arid America," as it now stands. To do this will require a great deal of investigation and experiment. An effort will be made at once, it is said, to get aid

from congress towards this end. If no aid can be obtained from this source, the railway managers may set alone.

Experts in agriculture, horticulture and the effects of climate, altitude and drought, will be sent into Siberia, Persia and other high countries which possess the general climatic and physical characteristics of this region. There they will find out what staple crops are raised by cultivators of farm and garden products, and specimens of these will be sent to Colorado for planting in the arid eastern territory.

The Irrigation Farmer. Irrigated farms have a tendency to induce their owners to cultivate crops that will pay the largest profits, and the irrigation farmer is, in a vast majority of cases, a man of high intelligence, who studies to make his land as profitable as possible. He has broken loose from the traditions of his forefathers because he is surrounded by different conditions. He has learned what it means to control the water supply of his land, and seeks to take advantage of this tremendous lever to cultivate his acres. Farming, with him, is a science, in which he has learned that the conditions which tend toward success are greatly in his favor if intelligently applied, and he uses this intelligence to produce the best results. Water is the predominating element in farming in the arid region, and its value will never be less than at present, while its average cost is likely to diminish through the use of improved methods for its conservation and distribution.—Irrigation Age.

To Estimate Weight of Animals. The following rules may be applied to estimate the weight of live animals. In measuring a beef steer take a string, says Montana Stockman, put it around the animal standing square, just behind the shoulder blades. Measure on a foot rule the feet and inches the animal is in circumference. This is called the girth. Then with the string measure from the bones of the tail which plumbs the line with the hinder part of the buttock; direct the line along the back to the fore part of the shoulder blade. Take the dimensions on the foot rule as before, which is the length.

Work the figures in the following manner: Girth of the bullock six feet four inches; length, five feet three inches, which multiplied together make thirty-one square superficial feet, that multiplied by twenty-three—the number of pounds allowed to each superficial foot of cattle measuring less than seven and more than five feet in girth—makes 813 pounds. Where the animal measures less than nine and more than seven feet in girth, thirty-one pounds is the number to each superficial foot.

Again, suppose a pig or any small animal should measure two feet in girth and two feet along the back, which multiplied together make four superficial feet; that multiplied by eleven—the number of pounds allowed for each square foot of cattle measuring less than three feet in girth—makes forty-four pounds.

Again, suppose a calf or sheep should measure four feet six inches in girth and three feet nine inches in length, multiplied together make sixteen and one-half square feet, that multiplied by sixteen—the number of pounds allowed to cattle measuring less than five and more than three feet in girth—makes 264 pounds.

A Tale of Frontier Life. Henry Martin, who resides up in the direction of Antelope Basin, W. T., recently came across a ghastly relic of early days, which might well form the foundation of a tale of frontier life.

He was out prospecting in a wild and broken part of the country, where, in the midst of an elevated plateau, it is not uncommon to find one's self on the brink of a crevasse or cleft in the rock, a plunge down which would inevitably prove fatal. It was in examining one of these strange openings, formed during some tremendous convulsion of the earth ages ago, that Mr. Martin saw pinned between the adamantine walls far below him the whitened bones of a man and a horse. He made a circuitous journey around the sill which brought him to where it was possible to enter the narrow gorge and by difficult climbing over ragged boulders to reach the skeletons. He cautiously picked his way through for a distance of several hundred feet, and at length reached the object which had excited his curiosity. There was no doubt, from the position of the animal and the rider, that they had plunged headlong to their death, either while being pursued or in some mad ride which did not leave time to check them-

selves on the brink of the yawning chasm.

The man must have been fully six feet in height and between 50 and 60 years of age, the latter supposition being established by the fact that he had during life lost some of his teeth and the bone had grown over the cavities.

The skull showed a rather intelligent forehead, the cheek bones were prominent, and the general shape of the head indicated that the bones were those of a Mexican. This theory was further confirmed by the discovery of a rich Mexican sash, with heavy gold trimmings, all in a good state of preservation.

The skeleton was found in a perpendicular position, the head downward and tightly pinned between two walls of rock. The rider had fallen from his steed; and the bones of the latter were similarly suspended, but twenty feet further up.

In a little basin at the foot of the gorge was discovered a copper plate about six inches square, and stranger of all, a plug of tobacco of apparently ancient manufacture, but seemingly as perfect as when the dead man had put it in his pocket to solace him in his lonely ride across the hills.—Channing Register.

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