Big Valley.

J. W. Groves went to town for a load of coal last week.

As a rule stock looks fine and everyone has plenty of hay.

Jesse Brosius went to Woodlake one day last week after a load of freight for J. E. Cochran.

Bernie Tinkham, the bandleader, has been baling hay up by Arabia, but is almost done now.

Wm. Banks has a bad cold but is getting better. He must have been working with one overshoe off.

Clarence Groves got some traps to catch some musk rats with, but they were a new kind and proved to be of no use.

The Cherry Valley Cow Boy Band are intending to meet hereafter on each Saturday night and have a general round up of music.

Paul Kennicott, Jr. has been working for George Bakewell, but is at home at this writing and Charley Lydiatt is working in his place.

We heard Clarence Groves and his brother out beating around in the dark the other night trving to play a tune on a base drum and an alto horn. Of course they did not succeed.

Joe Kennicott and "Buster" Dew has an invitation out for tenderfoots. Perched on a fence post is a box about two feet square shot full of holes. Tenderfoots that are not up to Gopher Gulch times had better look wise and stay away.

BIG VALLEY WIZARD.

Britt Items.

How dear to our hearts are the North-western blizzards,
When swiftly the old north wind carries them through;
The white glistening snow-drift, the cold silent snow-drift,
And e'en the deep snow-drift that banked up the door.

Edith Broad began teaching at Kewanee last week.

Arthur Broad went to town last week with a load of corn.

Mr. and Mrs. Brown are the proud owners of a baby girl.

Mrs. D. Kellogg has been visiting at Valentine the past week.

Coyotes and rabits are as plentiful as snow-drifts in this locality.

Mr. Britt and his son, John, are out hunting today. Success to you, boys.

Messrs. Sanner and Bullis were visitors at Dry Creek school last week.

The people in the vicinity of Britt are kept busy now-a-days shelling corn.

Andrew Miller and wife have moved to Valentine to enjoy city life for awhile.

We wonder if anyone is still wishing for more wintry weather than we had last week.

Henry Fowler and family have been visiting with old neighbors in the hay-flats the past week.

Messrs. Bullis, Dunn, Kellogg and Novak have been putting up ice on Dry Creek. They expect to keep cool during the warm summer months.

Mrs. McKay, of Illinois, is visiting at the home of her daughter, Mrs. Dave Dunn, this winter. She is well pleased with Cherry county and we trust that she may decide to make this her future home.

WYNKEN,
BLYNKEN,
AND NOD.

Wood Lake.

We have had some snow but is nearly gone now.

Elza Vandergrift was in town last week from Goose Creek.

Mr. Klingaman was in town Friday.

E. B. Gowin has been sick for two or three days.

Mrs. Paul has been quite sick but we have not learned the cause.

The dance given at Honey's hall Friday night was well attended.

Grandma Handy died Tuesday morning. Rev. Cumbow conducted the funeral Wednesday afternoon.

Dr. Hall was called out to Joseph Kreycik's Sunday on account of the illness of little Charley who has lung fever.

Fifton Lavitt, who has been working for Jim Wilson, returned to this town with a sprained ankle.

Rev. Wells held service Sunday morning and evening. He will hold service again Feb. 5th. Everybody invited.

Rev. Cumbow will hold revival meetings next week. Come everybody.

Anyone finding a brown hair switch in Woodlake, please leave at Young's store.

Remember the literary Feb. 5th.

A leap year dance will be given at Honey's hall Friday, Feb. 5th Everybody invited.

Roy Randell has been enlisted in the U. S. Army.

Manly Wyman has arrived in Virginia we understand and is very proud of that country.

A bunch of sheep were driven in town today.

Mrs. C. R. Kinkead is in Valentine on business.

Allie Hayen, from Johnstown, made a flying trip out to Hollenbeck's Monday.

Mrs. Richardson's father, Mr Dayton, has arrived here and intends to make his future home with us.

Mrs. Eva Blakely left for Bonesteel where she will meet her husband. They intend to make their home in S. D.

WHO AM I?

HOGS AND THEIR CARE

The hog is an omnivorous animal and needs "roughage" and green feed for his best health and growth. A certain amount of grain feed is needed to grow hogs with the greatest profit, and still more is necessary to fatten and fit them for market. When young animals have an abundance of range with a good supply of nitrogenous foods, like alfalfa, clover, vetches and cowpeas, corn makes a valuable addition to the ration, but should not be given in excess and will usually be found more profitable if mixed with shorts, bran or other feed containing a large proportion of protein. For young pigs bran is not so good as shorts, and ground cowpeas may be used in the place of the latter when the price exceeds $20 per ton.

Feeding for the finish should not begin more than ten or twelve weeks before the hogs are to be sold. For the last six or eight weeks corn is undoubtedly the best grain, as the feed consumed during this time greatly influences the quality of the meat. Hogs take on flesh rapidly during the first weeks of heavy feeding, but longer feeding means slower gains. Quick work pays in fattening as well as in growing hogs, and when the animals are on good feed and fail to make a gain of at least one pound daily they should be sold or butchered.

Market your hogs at six or eight months of age, at which time they should weigh 200 to 250 pounds. A greater per cent of profit is secured than if you keep them until ten or twelve months old, because you avoid sixty to 120 days of daily animal waste. However, a hog which is made to weigh 300 pounds at one year is quite profitable.—Farmer's Advocate.

How to Market Hogs.

After I have my hogs fattened I would not drive them to market, says John Cownie. I live three miles from a railway station. Whenever I have driven them that distance I have a loss of from five to seven pounds. If I hauled them I have never had a shrinkage of more than one and a half to two pounds. Then I would have my cars well bedded, ride with them myself, go with them to market, stay with them in the yards, water, feed and stay by them until they cross the scales. Whenever I get some one who can tend to that better than I can I will turn it over to him. There is money in the hog business if it is properly conducted. There is no money in it if it is not properly conducted.

Hog Cholera.

Hog cholera is rare in the southwest. In fact, it does not exist unless imported in infected hogs or infected stock cars, says Farm and Ranch. The bureau of animal husbandry is now working on a formula for the cure of hog cholera, and it is claimed with some hope of success.

The Usual Way.

"I suppose Jinks is proud of his boy, but he hasn't taken the usual way of showing his friends that he is."

"What do you mean?"

"He hasn't told them that his son is so big for his age that he has to get a suit made for a fourteen-year-old when he is only eleven."—Cincinnati Times-Star.

A Little Outside Help.

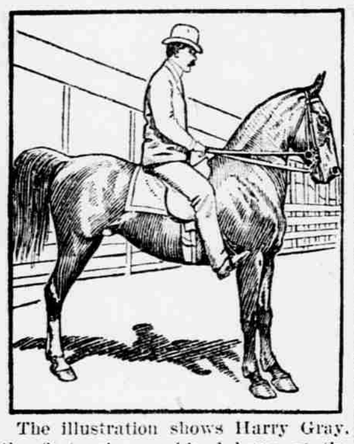
"I understand that politician is a self made man."

"He is, entirely—except for a couple of coats of whitewash which he has received from investigating committees."—Syracuse Herald.

HORSES AND THEIR CARE

The farm and stock papers are all giving treatment for balking horses, most of them recommending as a cure certain manipulations of the animal's foot. This treatment has been practiced for a hundred years. We have tried it, having had much experience with balkers, says Farm and Ranch. We have known a balky horse to start immediately after hammering on the sole of one front foot, and we have known many such treatments to fail entirely. At best we consider this treatment only a temporary expedient. Here is a treatment we have often used and never known a failure, and if persisted in for a week or two it cures the fault permanently: Take a small rope and firmly attach it to the horse's tail. Take a turn on the doubletree or crossbar, giving slack enough to tighten the traces. If the horse refuses to pull tighten this rope until the draft comes on the tail. No horse ever refuses to pull by his tail. When the horse starts the tail hold may be relaxed until the draft comes on the traces again. Many balking horses will refuse to start, and others will start off all right, but if stopped will refuse to pull. The way to treat this form of vice is to pull on the tail rope until the draft comes partially on the tail. Then he will go. The tail draft may then be gradually relaxed until all the draft rests on the traces. Persist in this treatment, and a permanent reformation is a sure result.

A Texas Star.



The illustration shows Harry Gray, the first prize combined horse at the San Antonio (Tex.) fair.

How Your Colt May Be Hurt.

Too many people who allow the sucking colt to follow the mare do not remember that a young colt is not strong enough to follow either in a long drive or at work all day. If they stopped to think how young the colt is and how little muscle he has they would shut him up in some cool, comfortable place while the dam is in use.

The rule is that a young colt should be where he can lie down and rest two-thirds of the time. At first, until he gets a little used to the separation, great care should be taken to shut up the colt where he cannot possibly injure himself. Don't put him in a pasture where he can rush against a barbed wire nor in a stable with a large window where he can jump out and break his leg.

A plain box stall without undulations in the floor, without manger or ties of any kind, is best. No other young animal is more likely to get into trouble, and no other is so easily damaged.—Farm, Field and Fireside.

No Patent on It.

Some of the best horses ever brought to America were bred by the farmers of England, France and Belgium. These men got a good mare or two, used them to work their farms, bred them to the best sires they could find, producing stallions that had admirable conformation and disposition for draft horse sires. Some of the best trotters ever bred were produced by farmers who owned well bred road mares and mated them to good stallions. Who will say that these men, who use the dams for the purpose for which their produce is intended, cannot produce horses that are equal to those of the great breeding establishments? asks Stockman and Farmer. They can and often do. There is no patent on horse breeding, no advantage in favor of the millionaire who keeps his brood mares in idleness over the farmer who works or drives his. It will pay any man who has a good mare to give her a chance to do her best, and that means to mate her properly and take care of her progeny.

Barley as Food For Horses.

While it is undoubtedly true that oats are the standard grain food for horses and will probably continue to be so through all time, yet there is a wide place for the feeding of barley, not only to colts while growing, but also to horses at work, and for fattening old horses it would probably be correct to say that there is nothing like it. In feeding barley it is not customary to feed it right along, the same as oats, although to young colts that are growing it may sometimes be fed once a day to advantage, suggests the Farmer.

To horses at work it is usual to feed it two or three times a week, but when the object in feeding is to fatten old horses and put them in condition for selling then it would be well to feed barley to them every day. The favorite old time method of preparing barley for such feeding is to steam it. This is considered preferable to boiling.

It is thought to be a matter of some importance to know just how far the steaming process should be carried. It is not considered judicious to steam it to the point of causing the grains of barley to burst open. It is steamed enough when it allows moisture to escape when squeezed between the finger and thumb.

A Costly Cure.

The hydrinus, or serpentine, called in Italy ranocchia, or frogskin, from its mottled appearance, a stone of a rich, dark green color, with shades and spots resembling a serpent's skin, is popularly believed to be a specific for rheumatism.

Camillo Leonardo, one of the earliest authorities to describe carefully the virtues of precious stones, thus quaintly speaks of it: "It restores such sufferers to health if they will stand in the sun, holding it in the hand for three hours, as it causes the discharge of all the poisonous moisture in the body." Great care, however, must be taken, he warns us, in using it, as it tends at the same time to abstract the natural moisture of the body.

Ground to a powder and taken inwardly, it is said to cure the stone and venomous bites, and in particular it is a potent charm to drive away serpents of all sorts.

Though soft enough to be easily cut or turned, serpentine admits of a high polish and is much prized for ornamental purposes.

Beauty and the Beast.

There was as much truth as boasting in the statement of John Wilkes, the famous London alderman, "Ugly as I am, if I can have but a quarter of an hour's start I will get the better of any man, however good looking, in the graces of any woman."

Of Wilkes' abnormal ugliness there was never any question. "The children in the street ran away affrighted at the sight of him."

And yet his powers of fascination were so great that women of beauty and fashion vied with each other for his notice, while handsome men of all courtly graces were neglected.

It was said that there were few beauties of the day whose hand Wilkes might not have confidently hoped to win. He married one of the richest and loveliest women of his time.

"Beauty and the beast, they call us," Wilkes once said to a friend, "and I cannot honestly find fault with the description."

Mark Twain and Whistler.

Mark Twain thus described his first meeting with James MacNeill Whistler:

"I was introduced to Mr. Whistler," he said, "in his studio in London. I had heard that the painter was an incorrigible joker, and I was determined to get the better of him if possible. So at once I put on my most hopelessly stupid air, and I drew near the canvas that Mr. Whistler was completing.

"'That ain't bad,' I said—'it ain't bad; only here in this corner'—and I made as if to rub out a cloud effect with my finger—'I'd do away with that cloud if I was you.'

"Whistler cried nervously:

"'Gad, sir, be careful there! Don't you see the paint is not dry?'

"'Oh, that don't matter,' said I, 'I've got my gloves on.'

"We got on well together after that."

Pascal's Early Observation.

Blaise Pascal, who wrote a remarkable treatise on the laws of sound, was constantly observing the familiar occurrences about him even as a boy. When he was only ten years old he sat at the dinner table one day striking his plate with his knife and then listening to the sound.

"What are you doing with that plate, Blaise?" asked his sister.

"See," he replied. "When I strike the plate with my knife it rings. Hark!"

Again he called forth the sound.

"When I grasp it with my hand so," he continued, "the sound ceases. I wonder why it is."

Michael Angelo.

Michael Angelo, while painting "The Last Judgment," fell from his scaffold and received a painful injury in the leg. He shut himself up and would not see any one. Bacio Rontini, a celebrated physician, came by accident to see him. He found all the doors closed. No one responding, he went into the cellar and came upstairs. He found Michael Angelo in his room, resolved to die. His friend the physician would not leave him. He brought him out of the peculiar frame of mind into which he had fallen.

Brazilian Coffee.

Brazilians are great coffee drinkers. Numerous cups are drunk each day by the average man and woman. The beverage is made very strong and very sweet. It produces an exhilaration of a more intense and lasting kind than beer. Those addicted to this habit become very restless and scarcely able to sit still or stand still even for a moment.

Used to Fill Up.

Mrs. Billus (after the company had gone)—Johnny, you shouldn't have eaten those preserved fruits. They were not intended to be eaten. They were put on the table to fill up.

Johnny Billus—Well, that's what I used 'em for, mamma.

An Exception.

Ascum—He's particularly pleasant when you get him in a reminiscent mood, don't you think?

Borroughs—Not always. He was in just such a mood the other day and recalled a loan of $5 he had made to me.—Exchange.

The Better Way.

"Shure an' I hate to be l'avin' ye, Dennis."

"Ach, Nora, me darlint, I can't bear the siperation. If we must part let's go t'gither."—Kansas City Journal.

Experienced.

"Women feel where men think," said the female with the square chin.

"Yes," sighed the man who had been married three times; "that's why men become bald."—Lyre.

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Ladies and Misses Skirts.
Orders taken for Ready-Made Tailor Skirts at reasonable prices.
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LOST!
One brown yearling horse colt randed, DS on left hip.
12 D. STINARD, Valentine, Nebr.

$50 00 REWARD
will be paid for information leading to the recovery of one brown mare, stolen from my homestead northeast of Valentine, Christmas night. Said mare is branded H S L under mane, is 10 years old and about 1100 pounds; has white spot in forehead, one white hind foot, one front foot scarred above fetlock from wire cut, and is of a low and blocky build.
F. W. MUMFORD,
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Prince Boabdel 131603 and Curly Coat 112261 at head of herd. The blood of Fowler, Anxiety, Lord Wilton and Sir Gladstone predominates in my herd.
No stock for sale at present. Ranch four miles northwest of Brownlee, Nebr.
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Bran, bulk	75 per cwt	$14.00 ton	
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Chop Feed	1.05	"	$20.00 "
Corn	.95	"	$18.00 "
Chop corn	1.00	"	$19.00 "
Oats	1.20	"	$23.00 "

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