

# The St. Johns Herald.

VOLUME II.

ST. JOHNS, APACHE COUNTY, ARIZONA TERRITORY, THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 9, 1886.

WHOLE NUMBER 87

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BUYS AND SELLS

**WOOL, HIDES, PELTS, GRAIN.**  
Springville, Arizona.

It is estimated that the westward slope of Colorado will furnish the markets this fall 10,000 head of beef steers, and that the average weight of the four-year-old will be close to 1,200 pounds.—Stock Grower.

There are large numbers of Texas cattle at Hugo and at Coolidge yet unsold. Buyers are scarce and those few are not eager to catch on. The cattle are reported improving in flesh since the late rains have started the grass afresh.—Stock Grower.

The new Maricopa and Phoenix railroad project is a dead sure thing. Word has been received here, and authoritatively at that which assures the people that arrangements have already been perfected for the institution of operations, and agreeable terms made as to tariff rates with the Southern Pacific Company. This is really cheering news.—Gazette.

An exchange says beef cattle—grass cattle—some twenty-five or more years ago were considered boss cattle when at maturity they averaged a weight of 800 pounds. Now, a beef steer at the age of four years old won't weigh 1,200 pounds is no steer at all. Blood will tell every time. The ordinary scrub steer, the progeny of the scrub bull, of course was not counted upon in the light of weight; it was point of numbers in olden times, not weight. Times have changed; stockmen begin to learn that it is blood that tells, not numbers.

A Little Rock, Arkansas, special says that last Saturday two parties of cowboys who were driving cattle out of the Chickasaw nation under the proclamation recently issued by the Chickasaw authorities, and had been quarreling some time halted at a spring near Mud Creek, and as Ben Taylor was leaning down to drink he was shot in the neck by Franklin Scales who started to run away, when he was shot by one Adams. Firing then became general and the fight ended in one gang of the cowboys driving the others from the field. Taylor and Scales are said to be mortally wounded.

It is a noticeable fact that Arizona is this year singled out from all the states and territories as the only one for which no appropriation has been made by Congress for expenses of the Surveyor General's office. This remarkable step, so contrary to the usual custom, forces the conclusion that the only reason can be a desire on the part of interested persons to so cripple Mr. Hise that he will be unable to pursue his investigations of fraudulent land grants. The design of these men is known and will be defeated, but it will be well for the public to note what desperate efforts are being made by the land-grabbers to retain their ill-gotten plunder.—Tombstone Epitaph.

A gentleman who came here recently from Tombstone, and with his partner bought the Stinebaugh ranch, attempted suicide Wednesday night. He first took a dose of laudanum, but it did not work quick enough to suit him, and he helped it along with strychnine. The laudanum counteracted the strychnine and his friends discovering his condition, administered an emetic, which caused him to throw up the bulk of the poison. When sufficiently recovered to speak he remarked, "You have brought me out this time, but you'll not catch me next time." His partner and he own about 8,000 head of cattle in the Huachuca, and they are dying in large numbers for the want of feed. This is supposed to be the cause of his act.—Enterprise.—Enterprise.

C. P. Stanton was brought to Phoenix, by a posse this morning

and lodged in the county jail, charged with being an accessory to the massacre of the Martin family at Nigger Wells. Stanton and Barney Martin were neighbors at Antelope Springs, and have been enemies for several years past. From the first Stanton was suspected of being implicated in the murder, or having directed it, but we have learned that the evidence against him is simply of a circumstantial nature. This makes three persons who are now in our jail in connection with the fiendish crime mentioned, and officers are searching for several more, known to be closely connected with the murder. Undoubtedly a gang of Mexicans committed the crime, and it is to be hoped that the entire matter will be probed until the truth is reached.—Gazette.

Captain Jack Crawford, formerly chief of scouts in the Sioux and Apache campaigns, was bitten on the back of the right hand by a rattlesnake while en route from his mines in South Oscura Mountains to his home at Fort Craig. He had just killed one monster snake with his whipstock, and while returning to his wagon, a few yards distant, struck another with his foot, when it sprang up and fastened its fangs in his hand. He seized the reptile with his left hand and tore it loose and stamped it to death, and at once sucked the wound, extracting the poison, which undoubtedly saved his life. He then drove to the post, a distance of thirty miles, suffering the most intense pain. His hand and arm are frightfully swollen and he is a very sick man.—Pioche Record.

The Tucson Citizen says the passenger train going east yesterday was several hours behind its schedule time, and it was quite dark when Wilcox station was left. The train went dashing along towards Bowie at its usual speed, when the engineer caught sight of a man on the track waving his coat at the approaching train, and taking it for a signal the train stopped. It proved to be a tramp who was journeying westward, and he stopped the train to warn the engineer of a dangerous washout just ahead, into which the train would probably have pitched headlong but for his thoughtfulness. The train backed down to the nearest section house, and implements were brought and repairs made so the train could pass in safety over the break, and it went on its journey in one direction while the tramp plodded on his weary way in another.

On Monday evening last at the Wickenburg stage was wending its way north toward the Vulture from this place it was stopped by a man, in the road above Seymour. The driver, Mr. Smith, Mr. E. O. Grant of Wickenburg, and another gentleman were all armed and instantly drew their revolvers and covered him in the half moonlight that prevailed, while Mr. Smith asked him what he wanted. Just then the fellow discovered the situation and dropped his hand in which he held a presented revolver, and said he wanted to get on the stage. He, however, made no move to get on and seemed to remain in the road as if awaiting the co-operation of some one else. While the men in the stage kept him covered with their guns the driver drove past and left him standing in the road. His confederates probably did not come to time.—Phoenix Herald.

Senator Hearst is one of the defendants in the suit that Attorney-General Garland, at Lamar's direction, has brought against Haggin, Carr, et al., for the cancellation of patents to lakes Kern and Buena Vista in California, as "swamp and overflow." The drainage of Kern river on to Haggin and Carr's desert, had the correlative object of

drying up these lakes, and converting them into alfalfa pastures. Lamar holds that these lakes are navigable waters, and has instituted legal prosecution for the recovery of them from Haggin, Carr, Hearst & Co. These gentlemen having been defeated in the supreme court of this state by Miller & Lux, find that their gigantic schemes are not only obstructed by Secretary Lamar but are made impossible by the decision of the supreme court of California.

A Washington dispatch of Aug. 24th says that Governor Zulick, of Arizona, in an interview with Secretary Lamar, called his attention to a subject which effects largely the interests of the territory, namely, the survey of the lands along the completed portions of the Atlantic & Pacific railroad, so that they can be taxed. Only about one-third of the land has been surveyed, and under the law passed by the last Congress, the surveyed lands can be taxed without being patented. The Secretary referred the Governor to the general land office, where he was told that the surveys would be advanced as rapidly as possible, although, owing to the reduced appropriations, probably only a portion of the land could be surveyed. The new law authorizing the taxation of surveyed lands before patents are issued affects large tracts of land in nearly all the states and territories of the west, and as soon as the department issues the necessary circulars of instructions, the tax will be imposed.

For the past year or more says the Yuma Sentinel, a gang of Mexican desperadoes and horse thieves, under the leadership of a fellow named Gonzales, have had their headquarters near Clip, this county. From time to time they have committed depredations of almost every character with impunity, until some few months since when they stole a band of thirty horses from J. R. Frink, of Yavapai county, who followed them up and regained some of his horses, but failed to get the thieves, although it was ascertained that the gang at Clip were the thieves, and they had gone to Yuma. The chase was given up for the time being, but the officers kept a good lookout for the gang. About the 26th of June word was received by the officers that they had returned to Clip and by their actions had terrorized the whole community. An officer who remained there some time, but was unable to find the parties. Officer Smith also spent two weeks at Clip last month, in a fruitless endeavor to unearth them, but their many friends and countrymen kept them posted as to the movements of the officers. Nothing more was heard of the gang until last Thursday, when news was received here from Clip that Trinidad Gonzales and Louis Mendoza had kidnapped Miss Inez Martinez, and with others, who had a band of stolen horses, had started, it was supposed, for Lower California. Under Sheriff Werninger immediately organized a party and went to intercept them, but without success, and at this time nothing has been heard from them. The large scope of uninhabited country that they have to roam over, the few inhabitants of which are their countrymen will protect them, and the limited means of transportation and communication, makes their capture a difficult and costly undertaking. But the county should spare no expense to capture these outlaws.

It has become plain to every student of statistics that no class of meat producing animals except possibly the hog, says the Kansas City Record, can be increased with a rapidity sufficient to meet the increasing demand for it. There is

not only the increase of population to be met but there is an astonishing increase of meat consumption in all the countries of the world. In this country in 1850 there were 814 cattle to the 1,000 population. Now there are only 772 to the 1,000 population. This decrease has certainly occurred during the period of greatest prosperity in cattle-raising on a large scale—when the free grass on the public lands, the vast sums of willing capital, and the skill and energy of the ranchmen and feeders all favored to the highest degree a rate of production above the average of any other period. The total population of the United States doubles every twenty-five years, but east of the Mississippi the increase of cattle has been less than one-third as great. The annual increase of the population of the country is to the annual increase of the stock as 5 1/2 to 1 1/2 per cent, or an excess of increase of population over increase of stock of over 55 per cent.

It is easy to see from the above data that our own requirements are more than a match for our own production under even the most favorable conditions. We can not hasten breeding operations to any appreciable degree, but must content with about a slow 50 per cent annual increase or a calf for every two cattle in the land. But our home demand is not the sole absorber of our products. The British population is increasing at the rate of 1,000 per day, which, at the present rate of consumption, would require an increase of meat supply of 40,000,000 pounds per annum.

The demand for our meat products is not only increasing but this increase is a growing and permanent one. Can it be met? Probably not. Already we lack in numbers of productive stock and from the west—the great source of supply—for the last two years has come to us, the complaint of overstocking. At first this was received as the cry of some alarmist who was seeking to frighten some timid people into withdrawing from the cattle business and to deter others from entering upon it, but now, after two consecutive winters and one summer of heavy losses it begins to be seen that really many of the ranches are overstocked. There can be no expansion therefore, in that direction. But an increase can be made in the producing areas by utilizing some of our mountain regions, in dividing some of the large herds and grazing the subdivisions on areas neglected to the present on account of their smallness, and an increase and possibly the largest increase in our beef feeding capacity, can be made in the farm districts of the country. Our farms are not producing 50 per cent of the cattle food that they should and the combination of loss probably leave not over 50 per cent of the entire products to be actually utilized for conversion into meat, but of these cattlemen will take advantage but slowly because in the first matter will be considered as a utilization of waste places, and the second involves a new and improved system of agriculture and enlarged knowledge of the science of feeding that will require time to meet, while production halts at obstacles and speculates as to the probabilities the pace of demand is neither turned or retarded. It is inexorable and meat must be forthcoming cheaply as possible, but be the price what it may meat must come. Barring war prices meat is higher now than ever, except possibly during some short period when they have been unwarrantably "boomed," and are sure to continue on their upward tendency. The cattlemen have as bright a day before them as any one. They may not realize during the next six months or even the next twelve, though it is not impossible that they should at once, but let them stay with their herds, the good time cannot fail him.