

CATRON HAS A SCHEME.**He Wants the Territorial Legislature to Meet in the Merry Month of May.**

Delegate Catron is seeking to get the following amendment tacked on to the legislative, judicial and executive appropriation bill:

"Provided, That the next session of the legislative assembly of the territory of New Mexico shall commence on the first Monday in May, 1897, and each succeeding session thereof shall commence on the first Monday in May of every oddnumbered year thereafter.

"That when the members of the legislative assemblies shall have met at the capital of said territory to hold a session of the legislative assembly, the council shall be organized by the election of a president pro tempore by the members of that body present holding certificates of election issued to them by the proper canvassing boards of the respective counties, in the manner provided by the laws of said territory, provided a majority of all the members required by law to constitute the council be present.

"Thereupon some one of said members present, holding such certificate of election, shall administer the oath of office to such president pro tempore, and the said president pro tempore shall thereupon administer the oath of office to the remainder of the members of the council present, after which said council shall be organized by the election of the permanent officers of the election of the permanent officers of the council provided for by the laws of the United States only.

"That the house of representatives shall be organized by the election of a speaker pro tempore by the members of that body present holding certificates of election issued to them by the proper canvassing boards of the respective counties in the manner provided by the laws of said territory, provided a majority of all the members required to constitute the house of representatives be present; thereupon some one of said members present, holding such certificate of election, shall administer the oath of office to such speaker pro tempore, and the said speaker pro tempore shall thereupon administer the oath of office to the remainder of the members of the house of representatives present, after which said house of representatives shall be organized by the election of the permanent officers of the house of representatives provided for by the laws of the United States only.

"Provided further, That no other officer of either house of said legislative assembly shall be elected or appointed or paid out of any moneys appropriated by the congress of the United States or by the legislative assembly of said territory

than such as may be provided for by the laws of the United States."

How the Mexicans Tan.

Inasmuch as the tanning of leather by the canaigre plant is becoming such an important industry it will be interesting and instructive to know how the Mexican, the discoverers of the plant, utilize it.

In order to extract the virtues of canaigre for tanning, the nearer it can be reduced to a pulp the better. The best cheap plan to accomplish this, if the root can be obtained fresh, before it has time to dry, as to run it through a common cider mill, after which the pulp may be spread out and dried and stored for future use. If the root is allowed to dry first, then something stronger must be used, as for instance, the old-fashioned bark mill, or a patent grinder. The Mexicans use two flat rocks for the purpose, literally pounding it into pulp.

In order to make the "liquor," where the root is plentiful, the Mexicans merely leech the pulp something after the manner of the old-fashioned leech for leeching lye from wood ashes. By others, such waste of the precious root is considered sacrilege, and care is taken to extract all of its strength possible by heating, which must be done in a copper or galvanized cauldron, otherwise the "liquor" will turn your leather a bluish color by oxidizing the iron in an iron vessel. Success has been obtained by steeping the pulp in a wooden vat heated by galvanized steam pipes running through it.

After the "liquor" is made many have failed to produce first class leather through not taking into account the wonderful strength of the canaigre, and putting their hides into a solution altogether too strong to begin with, thereby "burning" the leather. "Feeding" the hide, or in common English transferring the hide at the proper time from a weak to a stronger solution, can only be learned by experimenting if no teacher is to be had. For making sole leather the Mexicans are not very particular to extract all the lime, by which the hide is impregnated in the process of removing

the hair, but in making upper leather they use a "bail" of hen manure to extract all the lime, alleging that lime and canaigre together will ruin upper leather.—Headlight.

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