



GEORGE Q. CANNON.....EDITOR

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THE CITY HERD GROUND.

THE hints contained in the correspondence of "Norval," in to-day's issue touch a subject that is of some interest to the generality of the inhabitants of this and other large cities in the Territory. It is well known that the range in the immediate vicinity of this city is getting poorer and poorer year by year. This has been brought about to a considerable extent by the continual grazing, during the summer season, of the various herds of cattle sent from the city; but probably to an equal, if not greater extent, by the herds of cattle owned by private individuals which are turned out winter as well as summer. This continual drain on the range impoverishes it, and makes it necessary year by year to send the public herds to a greater distance to pick up a scanty meal, which is much to the disadvantage of their owners, who in most cases are members of the laboring classes.

The keeping of cows in a large city like this, is by no means a profitable affair under any circumstances now-a-days; it was all very well years ago when the range was near and good and hay cheap. But inconvenient and expensive as it is now, it is a necessity, owing to the fact that milk and butter, —indispensable in a family—through their scarcity, can only be purchased with money or the best store pay; and as working men in many branches of labor here, cannot always procure this kind of pay, their families must either go very short of milk and butter or they must keep a cow.

Now to keep a cow up during the whole of the year is what no poor man can afford to do; and, unless it is of a very superior breed, it would hardly pay any man. But by paying two or three cents a day for herding during the summer, —from about May until the end of October, a tolerable cow, if she can get a good feed during the time of herding, with being slopped morning and evening, will about pay her expenses.

Of late years, however, sending city herds out to the range has been attended with little or no profit to the animals or their owners, owing to the distance the herd has to be driven, and the impoverished state of the herding ground. Say the herd leaves the city about seven in the morning and walks eight or ten miles to feed, —the distance traveled this last summer, —it is about eleven o'clock before it gets there; then, when the animals have had a rest and three or four hours' grazing it is time to start for home again; and instead of coming home well fed and with a good supply of milk, they are tired, hungry, and nearly dry.

Many persons who may have been in the habit of keeping their herds on the range near the city have no doubt thought that as the range was public property, they had as much right to keep their twenty, fifty or a hundred head of stock there all the year round, as anybody else had to send his one or two there during the summer months. In this, however, they are laboring under a mistake, for special enactments to the contrary have been provided by the Territorial Legislature. We append the clauses of the law touching this matter, referred to by "Norval," and recommend all who may be interested, to peruse them and to govern themselves accordingly:

Sec. 8.—In case that any herd shall be found upon the range in the neighborhood or vicinity of any settlement in this Territory, encroaching or intruding upon the range necessary for the animals of such settlement, and the owner of such herd shall refuse or neglect to remove the same when required so to do by a Selectman of the proper County, the County Court of such county is hereby authorized, at the expense of the owner of such herd, to cause the same to be removed to some more distant locality beyond the limits of the summer and winter range or hay grounds necessary for the support of the stock of that or any other settlement.

Sec. 9.—Any person failing to comply with the requirements contained in this act is liable for all cost and damage arising from his neglect, and to be fined at the discretion of any court having jurisdiction.

We understand that at a meeting of the Bishops, on the evening of Thursday last, this subject was under consideration, and it was the unanimous opinion that the provisions of this law should be respected. It may seem, to parties whose interests may be affected by such a movement, that the law is somewhat partial; but a little reflection will dissipate such an impression. Those in the city who keep a cow, have very few facilities for so doing, and do not do it for the sake of profit, but, in most cases, through necessity. It is far otherwise, however, with the owner of a herd. He keeps them for profit, and the facilities in the country for herding and feeding stock are vastly superior to what they are in a city; and it is much easier and far less expensive and inconvenient for him to drive his herd a distance from the city range than for the people in the city to do so, or to keep their animals up the year through. The Legislature were no doubt influenced by these considerations and others of a similar nature when they passed the law. We feel convinced that in most, if not all instances where it has been violated, it has been through ignorance; and that it is only necessary to call attention to it to have all cause of dissatisfaction and discontent removed, and the interests and rights of all respected and promoted.

A CURIOUS TRIAL—SPIRIT PHOTOGRAPHY.

ONE of the most singular trials to be found in the records of any country has just been brought to a close in the city of New York, a brief allusion to which was made in yesterday's telegrams; we refer to the case of Mumler the spirit photographer. This man professes to be able to furnish the likenesses of departed friends to those who may wish to obtain the same; but some who had applied to him, and had not obtained satisfaction, recently brought an action against him for obtaining their money under fraudulent pretences. The trial has been somewhat lengthy, has excited extraordinary interest, and has terminated in favor of the defendant.

The evidence offered both for and against the defendant was voluminous, some of the former being startling and highly sensational. Several of the witnesses for the defence were not spiritualists by profession or faith, but skeptics, and testified that they visited Mumler's Gallery in the belief that he was a cheat, and with the determination to detect the fraud if possible. Among these witnesses was a Mr. W. W. Silver, of Brooklyn, a photographer by profession. He testified that he visited Mumler's Gallery, a skeptic, having no faith in his power to produce a likeness of the departed. He prepared all the materials himself and had the likeness taken with his own instrument so as to prevent the possibility of any fraud or deception; and swore there was no collusion between himself and Mumler, yet when the picture was taken there was another portrait on the plate beside his own.

A Mr. R. Fanshaw, a portrait painter residing in Morrisania, examined for the defence, said, he went to Mumler's gallery about Christmas last, to test the matter if possible. He did not believe in spirit photography, and told Mumler's wife so, and that his object was to detect the fraud, if such existed. He made every preparation in his power to accomplish this if possible, but he was unable to do so and was furnished with a very true likeness of his mother, who had been dead twenty-eight years. Many other witnesses of respectability, not connected with the spiritualists, gave evidence equally startling and uncontrovertible, and on these grounds the suit was decided in favor of the defendant.

This development of spiritualism is something remarkable, and, in a day like this, when "signs" are so eagerly sought after, will no doubt induce many who have been sceptics or unbelievers, to give in their adherence to spiritualism. This science, system, or sect, or whatever it can be called, has spread more rapidly than anything ever yet introduced among the human family by way of religion; for although many of the so-called communications from the departed are utterly useless and nonsensical, and many of the feats performed in their "circles," as reported continually in the press, are equally so, they are still something that the most

profoundly scientific minds of the age are unable to account for on natural principles or by human agency, and hence they gratify, to some extent, that desire inherent in the human mind to know something in relation to the future.

The evidence given for the defense in the Mumler case shows that something unheard of hitherto in the photographic art has been accomplished by him; if that something is the result of imposture, it at least shows that he is no bungler at his business; if genuine it verifies the saying in Hamlet about there being more things in heaven or in earth than is dreamt of in our philosophy.

FAMINE IN PRUSSIA.

THE horrors of famine are still being experienced in the eastern portion of Prussia and on the confines of Russia, and the cry "help or we perish" is being made to resound throughout the civilized world. Hundreds and perhaps thousands of men, women and children are dying of disease and starvation in those doomed districts, and only a prompt response from the benevolent everywhere can stay the ravages of the destroyer. The districts are chiefly occupied by members of the Israelitish race, and the details of their sufferings, occasionally made known, are horrifying. Movements for extending relief to the sufferers are on foot in Europe, and in this country, both on the Atlantic and Pacific coasts. In Chicago and other large cities of the East public meetings are being held and appeals made in behalf of these unfortunate people; and in San Francisco on the evening of the 27th ult. an address was delivered for the same purpose under the auspices of the Independent Order of B'Nai B'Rith. The case is urgent, and appeals directly to the sympathies of the benevolent everywhere; and it is to be hoped that the efforts now being made to extend aid to the sufferers will meet with a hearty response.

IMPROVED STOCK IMPORTED.

THE necessity of improving their breeds of sheep and other stock has been urged upon the farmers of this Territory for years past, but hitherto very little has been done in this direction. This seeming neglect has been due, to a considerable extent, to the time and trouble required in years past for a journey to and from the East, and to the great risk in bringing sheep and other stock across the plains. As soon, however, as the completion of the railroad rendered that journey a comparatively insignificant matter, it is gratifying to know that steps were immediately taken, under the auspices of the Deseret Agricultural and Manufacturing Society, to import into the Territory the best breeds of sheep and cows from the East. The Legislature at its last session appropriated five thousand dollars for this purpose, and placed it at the disposal of the Deseret Agricultural and Manufacturing Society; and some three months ago, the Society deputed Hon. A. O. Smoot to go East to expand this means for the object for which it was appropriated.

Mr. Smoot has performed his mission, and by telegram to R. L. Campbell, Esq., of this city, dated Omaha, 4th inst., we learn that in the course of a day or two, he will reach Ogden with two car loads of sheep, chiefly of the "Improved Kentucky" breed, and two or three Ayrshire cows.

The improved Kentucky breed of sheep, when weight and quality of fleece, amount of mutton and hardness and fecundity are considered, is said to be equal or superior to any breed extant. It is the result of judicious crossing with the most celebrated breeds of sheep in the world, including the Cotswold, Southdown, Saxony, Teeswater, Oxfordshire and others, with native breeds, and the distinguishing characteristics and excellencies of these various breeds are said to be combined in the Improved Kentucky.

The Agricultural Report for 1863, page 336 contains the following notice of this breed of sheep:

"The 'Improved Kentucky' sheep (that is the name by which they have been long and widely known) have always faced the bleakest winters and the hottest and the driest summers without any protection, except that which nature has given them, and yet they have been almost entirely free from all disease, especially from the coughs, which often, in winter, affect sheep of the fine wool breeds; and they have been equally free from the snuffles and foot-rot, which have been so fatal to the long wool breeds. In springs and summers of excessive rains, clothed to the knees and to

the ears by a thick, long, and impenetrable fleece, they bid defiance to the wind, rain and snow, and seem at all times to be comfortable and sprightly. In summer they are changed from pasture to pasture, and they devour almost every green weed. In winter short grass is all they require, and if that cannot be afforded them they will take their corn fodder with the cattle, and thrive well upon it, though at lambing time, like other sheep, they require a more succulent diet."

In the same report, page 335, may be found the following in relation to the size and quality of the fleece of the "Improved Kentucky":

"The fleeces of these sheep vary from eight to fifteen pounds, the whole flock of over one hundred breeding ewes having averaged over eight pounds of merchantable wool, free from burs, tags, &c.; and though not washed on the sheep's back, still clean enough for domestic manufacture. Though the fleeces of these sheep (like those of all other breeds) are not perfectly uniform as to length, thickness and fineness of fibre, still there is a general uniformity, and the diversity is of no practical disadvantage. Their wool is longer than that of any sheep, except those of the Cotswold family, and is equal in length to that of many individuals of that family, while it greatly excels the wool of the Cotswold in fineness and softness of fibre, and in the number of fibres to the square inch. In some individuals it is wavy or curly, but it is never harsh or wiry. Except the face and the legs below the knees, the whole body is covered with a close and compact fleece, which, when full grown, leaves no open line on the back, as with the Cotswold; but gives a perfect protection to the sheep, and causes them to present a smooth, handsome, and portly appearance. Their fleeces have enough of grease and gum to preserve the softness and vitality of the fibres, even to their ends, but not so much as to give the sheep a dark and dirty appearance. Their wool receives domestic dyes without any washing whatever, is easily cleaned on the sheep's back, and when it is washed in soft water, with soap, it readily becomes very white, receives chemical dyes, and preserves its lustre perfectly."

These extracts, from such an authority, are sufficient to prove the great excellence of this breed of sheep. For amount and quality of meat they probably cannot be excelled, a two year old ewe, and a ram and ewe lamb about nine months old, owned by Mr. Robert W. Scott of Ky., the originator of this breed and from whom most of those now being imported into the Territory were bought, weighed respectively 188, 108 and 106 pounds.

Of the Ayrshire cow little need be said; as a dairy cow.—a milk and butter producer,—it has attained a most excellent reputation. In this country, British America, Great Britain and Ireland and in many parts of Europe where it has been introduced, it is acknowledged to be superior in these respects to any other breed.

The Deseret Agricultural and Manufacturing Society are importing these improved breeds of sheep and cattle, not to speculate upon, but solely to improve the stock of the Territory; to cover expenses of importation is all they aim at; hence they will sell them at as small an advance on first cost as possible, so that all classes of farmers may have a chance to reap the benefits that may accrue from their introduction.

This is but the inauguration of the movement; as soon as this instalment is sold off the Society will immediately make arrangements for the importation of more, and they design to send East two or three times during the present season on this business. The opportunity now presented to the farmers of the Territory to improve their stock is most excellent, and if they are as fully alive to their own interests as they should be they will not be slow to avail themselves of it.

THE CELEBRATION AT ST. GEORGE.—We glean, by a telegraphic dispatch dated St. George, May 10th, the following particulars of how "the event" was celebrated at our "Dixie":

"At thirty-three minutes past noon the telegraph line flashed the word to this effect that the connecting rail of the transcontinental railroad was being laid by Governor Stanford. From information received the morning the ecclesiastical, civil and military authorities and the people were on *qui vive*, and immediately on receipt of the welcome intelligence, greeted it by unfurling the Stars and Stripes, salutes by the artillery and music by the brass and marching bands; after which eloquent speeches were delivered by President Erastus Snow and Jacob Gates. Even while we write concluding hearty cheers of the assembled people are making our red hills ring. The committee were Messrs. Richard Bentley and Joseph Birch."

HOME.—President Young and company reached this City at four o'clock on Tuesday afternoon.