

enjoyed a year ago as well as the present; said he was glad to see those things the Lord had forbidden were not indulged in—no tea or coffee being served—and he hoped that at the dance that was to follow no one would call for a walz (which I was glad to see was not done). The rest of the afternoon was spent in speeches and songs. As the music, true to the late style of not coming until the evening is half gone, did not appear, the time from 6:30 p. m. until towards 9 was taken up in more songs and speeches, in which our minds were refreshed by congratulations on the glorious event of Statehood and our elevation, male and female, to full citizenship. The music now being here, all, old, older, oldest, went merrily into the dance until midnight, when all went to their homes well satisfied.

Respectfully,
REDICK N. ALLRED.

SCHOOL LANDS.

At the meeting of the State Agricultural society the school land question was not reached until late at night. The farmers seemed to be all at sea on the question, having but a very indefinite idea of the subject—apparently having no idea of the rights of settlers on school lands and seemed to know very little in regard to what they themselves thought best to do. In looking up the matter the following has been obtained from a source that is authority on land questions: "The Reservation of lands, Secs. 16 and 36 to a territory for the benefit of schools is not a grant, but an act with a view to a grant, and as territories have no vested right in the land cannot interfere, as between an entry man and the government. But the grant takes effect and the title passes to the State without patent or certificate when the state is admitted. So the State has a perfect right to step in as owner to all such school lands as are not excluded from its grant. The law excludes as such, all land settled upon by qualified pre-emptors, with a view to pre-emption, when said settlement was before the land was surveyed by the United States. The pre-emption law provides that a settler upon surveyed land shall be protected in his settlement rights for three months, from the date of the filing of the plat of said land in the local land office, against an intervening or adverse claimant, which some have claimed a state to be. But the preponderance of evidence has been against a state stepping in to defeat the settler, even though he has not filed within the statutory period. The department has repeatedly held that settlement before and at time of survey excludes the land claimed, from the reservation to a territory, and have from the grant to the State, and this too in the face of the fact that filing had not been made within the statutory period. A case decided in Utah was that of Jane Hodger, involving north half northwest quarter of section 36, township 6 south, range 2 east, as follows: 'That the failure of a settler before survey, to assert his claim within the statutory period does not inure to the benefit of the reservation to the territory.'

A state case in California has been decided as follows: "School land on which settlement or cultivation was formed at survey did not pass to the state."

Against the state of Colorado was the following: "A filing on a school section being held for cultivation on a special agent's report, charging want of settlement, the pre-emptor is allowed to furnish final proof, in view of alleged settlement before survey and continuous residence thereafter, though the filing was not placed on record within the statutory period."

And last but not least, the U. S. Supreme Court says, in the case of Mining Co. vs Consolidated Mining Co. (102, U. S. 187), 'We are now satisfied that whenever the sections (16 and 36) are ascertained by the government survey, there is either a dwelling house or the cultivation of any portion of the land, on which some one is residing and is asserting claim to it, the title of the state does not vest.'

So while there are some nice little technical points involved in the question, which I cannot explain by letter, I am of the opinion that a bona fide claim for school land would stand against the state.

In 1880 rights held by a pre-emptor were by law vested in a homesteader. So in speaking of a pre-emptor it includes a homesteader and the pre-emption law is repealed."

This information comes from a man whose business it is to know who really speaks and is reliable. Remembering that the government protects and aids all bona fide settlers in every way possible, I would strongly advise all such settlers on school lands, before 1880, to immediately apply through a qualified land attorney for the homesteader's rights. It is my opinion that it would better to do this before any State laws are passed on the subject, as then the individual will only have to defend himself, whereas if he waits till later the cases may become more complicated.

A. A. MILLS,
Pres. Utah State Agricultural Society.

AN ANSWER.

Dear Sir—The hides and canagre you speak of no doubt will make good leather, but to give you all the details would take too much time and space in our paper.

In the first place the manufacture of leather is a mechanical science which takes years of study and practice to become efficient in, and could not be all written in a brief letter. After all that could be written, it will only give you the theory.

The first preparation is to get raw material in condition to tan and it requires a great deal of labor and skill, differing as to climate and temperature, and I may say therein is the secret of making good leather. After twenty years' experience in this country I give this as a fact to any who may wish to engage in this laudable enterprise, that the first preparation is the one to become skilled in. The making of tan liquors is an easy matter when temperature is well observed. The canagre no doubt will have to be ground if dry, or chopped if green, to prepare it for a leaching process to facilitate time in handling as is usual in handling tan bark. Green

hides first going into tan liquors must be handled carefully and often to secure good grain until they are thoroughly grained, and not with too strong liquors or the grain will draw in uneven shape; then the pieces will vary as to class and what is intended for in the classes of leather.

I hope this will answer your inquiry; I did not see the article till yesterday.

I am interested in any local industry that is profitable, and cheerfully give this brief article hoping it will be understood, for the signs of the times bespeak prosperity for this much desired industry. In closing I will say there is a safe field for investment and it is one upon which much of the future prosperity of the State depends. There is remuneration in the manufacture of leather known the world over to those engaged in it; but all good mechanics are not shoemakers.

Yours respectfully,
J. C. OSTLER.

Nephi City, Juab Co.

WORD FROM SOUTH CAROLINA.

The work is progressing nicely with sixteen pairs of young Elders. There are several churches and Sunday schools organized and doing work. As President Kimball remarked, "They are the preserving salt of the Saints." The health of the Elders is good although at present measles are raging through the state. While canvassing Union village myself and companion were entertained by and had a pleasant conversation with ex-Judge Wallace, speaker of the state legislature in 1896, who also showed us fine piece of art, executed by his daughter in oil colors. We were also kindly entertained by ex-Judge D. A. Townsend and Lawyer J. Gee and other prominent citizens. Those who are up to the times are inclined to treat us the same as other citizens while those who do not keep up with the news of the day seem to think that "The Mormons have horns" or something worse.

After we had distributed tracts to the people of the Union factory, the superintendent sent a man around behind us to tell the people to burn the tracts and not allow us back or they would lose their job. Is that Americanism? Is that free and religious liberty? Of course those who wanted to read the tracts did so and are guaranteed the right to choose for themselves whom they will serve. Most of the people accepted pamphlets and we hope will read and consider them well.

Thanking you for the News, we are your brethren,
A. W. WRIGHT.
JOHN BOND.

CHICAGO, Jan. 8.—A. Krueger, of this city, is a blood relation of President Paul Krueger, of the Transvaal, South Africa, whose name is at present well known in connection with the Boer war. The Chicagoan is, like his distinguished cousin, descended from the royal family of Vasa through Christina, queen of Sweden, and with others of his relatives, is a party to a suit for the recovery of a part of Christina's estate.

Mr. Krueger has been a resident of the United States for more than forty years, eighteen of which have been passed in this city.