

Eastern and Western markets, immense fortunes are now being made, and the business is comparatively new—in its infancy.

No drouths which have been experienced in this great range have ever seriously affected the pasturage, owing to the peculiar qualities of the grasses indigenous to the country. So with storms: it has seldom happened that any storms are experienced which cause loss, and none ever need to, and none ever do, when the stock is properly attended to and herded.

On these ranges it is common for stock of many owners to range together, and a system of brands has been adopted, and recorded with the county clerk in the section of country where the herds belong. The recording of the brands is a protection against theft and loss by straying, as each cattle man knows the brands in use in his range, and each endeavors to protect the other's interest.

The illustrations that we present, show two of the brands in use, and the method adopted by all cattle men to make known their brand, and the particular range, or *home range* of the cattle. [These are actual names, brands, range and addresses.]

THE ANNUAL "ROUND-UP."—One of the most important and interesting features of the stock-raising business is the cattle "round-up." In the "free and easy" manner of raising cattle on the broad, western plain, where the owner may not see one-half of his herd for six months at a time, it may be imagined that the restless Texans scatter almost from Dan to Beersheba, and that extra effort is necessary when they are finally collected by the regular spring "round up." Companies of herders are organized to scour certain sections of country, and bring every animal to a grand focal point, no matter who that animal may belong to or what its condition may be. The old-fashioned "husking bee," "possum hunt" or "training day" is vastly outdone by this wild revelry of the herders. Mounted upon their fleetest ponies, the cow-boys scatter out in all directions, gather in "everything that wears horns," and at night may have the property of half-a-dozen owners in one immense, excited herd. Then, while a cordon of herders hold the animals together, representatives of the different "brands" ride into the herd, single out their animals, one by one, and drive them off to be branded or marketed. Moving along, day after day, the scene is repeated, until the whole plains country has been visited, and every breeder has had an opportunity to take an inventory of his stock. Of course the participants "camp out" wagons, following the herd, with blankets and provisions, the "round-up" season, being one of mirth and frolic, as well as of work, from beginning to end.

No. 30 ANNEX. The Great Cave—of Eastern Nevada, lies about forty-five miles to the southwest of Eureka. It is situated in one of the low foot-hills of the Shell Creek Range, which extends for about two miles into a branch of Steptoe Valley. The ridge is low, not over 60 or 65 feet high, and presents no indications which would lead one to suspect that it guarded the entrance to an immense cavern. The entrance to the cave would hardly be noticed by travelers, it being very low and partly obscured. A rock archway, small and dark, admits the explorer, who must pass along a low passage for about 20 feet, when it gradually widens out, with a corresponding elevation of roof. Many of the chambers discovered are of great size; one, called the "dancing hall," being about seventy by ninety feet. The roof is about forty feet from the floor, which is covered with fine gray sand. Opening

into this chamber are several smaller ones, and near by, a clear, cold spring of excellent water gushes forth from the rock. Further on are more chambers, the walls of which are covered with stalactites of varied styles of beauty. Stalagmites are found on the floors in great numbers. It is not known how far this cave extends, but it has been explored over 4,000 feet, when a deep chasm prevented further exploration.

INDIAN LEGEND—The Indians in this vicinity have a curious fear of this place, and cannot be tempted to venture any distance within its haunted recesses. They have a legend that "heap" Indians went in once for a long way and none ever returned. But one who ventured in many moons ago, was lucky enough to escape, with the loss of those who accompanied him, and he is now styled "Cave Indian." According to the legend, he ventured in with some of his tribe and traveled until he came to a beautiful stream of water, where dwelt a great many Indians, who had small ponies and beautiful squaws. Though urged to stay with his people, "Cave" preferred to return to sunlight. Watching his chances, when all were asleep, he stole away, and, after great suffering, succeeded in reaching the mouth of the cave, but his people still live in the bowels of the earth.

The Indians thoroughly believe the story, and will not venture within the darkness. Another story is current among the people who live near by, which is, that the Mormons were once possessors of this cave, and at the time when they had the rupture with the United States Government, used it as a hiding place for the plate and treasures of the Church and the valuables of the Mormon elders. The existence of the cave was not known to the whites, unless the Mormons knew of it, until 1866.

A LITTLE HISTORY—In the latter part of the summer of 1858, a party of prospectors from Mariposa, in California, crossed the Sierra Nevada Mountains *via* Yo-Semite to Mono Lake, then in Utah, but now in that part of the country set off to form Nevada. For three years the party worked placer mines and other gold along the various canyons and gulches extending eastward from the Sierras, which led others to continue prospecting further north, and who discovered Comstock Ledge. Other prospectors followed, and the discovery of rich veins in Lander, Esmeralda, Nye and Humboldt counties, and in the adjoining Territory of Idaho, was the result. The great "unexplored desert," on the map, was avoided until 1865 and 1866, when parties began to branch out and discover the rich argentiferous quartz and fine timber land, extending along a series of parallel valleys, from the Humboldt to the Colorado River. Several New York companies became interested in these discoveries, and erected a 20-stamp mill at Newark, 22 miles north of where Treasure City now stands, to work veins in the Diamond Range. Across the valley, opposite Newark, White Pine Mountain rises 10,285 feet. Here the "Monte Christo" mill was erected, at which a Shoshone Indian came one day with a specimen of better "nappias" than had yet been discovered, and, by his guidance, the rich mines discovered at Treasure Hill and the "Hidden Treasure" mine were located and recorded on the 14th of September, 1867. But, aside from the production of mineral, along these mountain ranges, another source of wealth exists in the valleys extending through Nevada and Utah. We refer to that branch of business which has been gradually increasing—one which will bring a large revenue to the settlers along these valleys in stock-raising. Bunch grass grows in abundance, and cattle