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SAN JUAN COUNTY INDEX.

VOLUME XII

ATZEC, NEW MEXICO, FRIDAY, AUGUST 2, 1901.

NUMBER 26.

To Hunt Homes Here.

Farmers from the Drouth-Stricken Section Will Westward Head Their Way.

If your pumpkins are not making and your corn is drying up. With your horses fields are turning brown and your cows are thin. If your potatoes have been ruined by the weevil. Come out into the fields and build them up again.

The foreigner scowled from the pen of Dan Connel, Esq., is not supposed to deal altogether with conditions as they are but to paint everything as it exists, but there is doubtless a basis of fact in the sentiments it expresses.

Kansas, Missouri, Oklahoma, and Nebraska have suffered intensely this summer. The greatest heat wave in its recorded history has hung steadily for the past six weeks over the vast fields of corn and grain of that region and the never ending hot winds have cooked crops of all kinds to a turn. Herds of cattle, having no feed in sight, have consequently been thrown on the market in unprecedented quantities and the receipts at the Kansas City stock yards have exceeded all previous figures. Prices are in consequence unusually low, and agricultural distress, following four successful crop seasons, will it be believed cause a heavy emigration of farmers from the sun scorched stretches of the central west into the irrigated areas of the Rocky mountain region.

Most of those who seek new homes in the west look for locations where the chances are favorable for advancement and where prices of property are yet low. Where the railroad is yet to be built and new ditches are to be laid, in the place most likely choose a suitable for locating in and growing up with.

Parties intending to leave the Missouri river valley states to seek a location in the irrigated section, cannot afford to miss looking into the opportunities lying open here in San Juan county, New Mexico. Land is cheap, the climate is fine and admirably adapted to fruit culture, and the water is abundant in general. The harvests are steadily increasing, and the country in a certain sense has no competition for its agricultural and horticultural products. Many thousands of rich, fertile lands remain yet to be watered, and companies are surveying ditches to cover the lands.

Here the growing crop is not a matter of chance or speculation. It may rain or it may not rain during the growing season—the crops grow anyway. The snows in the mountains furnish abundant waters in the river for all purposes throughout the summer. San Juan county is peculiarly blessed in this regard. Her rivers always have water in them. In fact, nowhere in the west is there a section with as much unused water available for irrigation purposes as in this county. "San Juan county rivers never run dry" has come to be a proverb.

"He who hesitates is lost," and he who hesitates, not about moving west, but only as to which section to choose for the new home, can terminate all doubts satisfactorily to himself by deciding to cast his lot in the new empire of the fruit-growing, agricultural southwest—San Juan county, New Mexico.

LARGO.

Joe Jarvis, who has assisted Mr. Eilmer in looking after the Hyde company's interests here during the past two weeks, moved his family over to Atzac this week. Mr. Eilmer will continue in charge of the store.

Cresco Largo has been bounding for a week past, and sending down volumes of filthy water, which contaminated the river water and rendered it unfit for drinking purposes. Those having wells of fine spring water, have cause for congratulation these days.

Mr. E. B. Howe has rented the J. P. Martin ranch across the river and will take up her abode there in the near future.

E. F. Spinner has recently purchased the old H. O. Willie ranch now being made use of by the Hyde Exploration company. Consideration unknown.

As a result of the washing out of the Model ditch, a general exodus of the male population has taken place, a number going to the mouth of the river to work. All are preparing to begin work on the new high line ditch, which will make the desert blossom as the rose, and even cause "spurs" to grow in the woods of Cresco Largo. The boom has not struck this side of the river as yet, but the indications of future prosperity look good to us. Though nobody is doing any shouting, a few of the knowing ones are quietly buying up ranch property and getting in on the ground floor, with certain prospects of doubling at no distant day, any money now invested in land.

J. P. Martin is busy making a large number of adobe on his ranch. He will erect a new dwelling house, ice house and carriage house. The ice which he intends to pack this winter, will be greatly appreciated by those awaiting during the "dog days" of next year.

Because of the spread of small pox, five fresh rancher pupils at the Atzac school—35 cents.

STATEHOOD THE SLOGAN.

THE struggle for statehood for New Mexico is on in earnest. Governor Otero, the territorial administration, Delegate Rodey, the Santa Fe New Mexican and other daily papers and various influential organizations are interested in this fight which this time is to a finish. If New Mexico doesn't get statehood now the chances are bright that she never will. The contest is not a political one in any sense of the word. It is a fight of Americans for a recognition of inalienable rights and privileges.

Under the existing circumstances, New Mexico cannot succeed, for she is not in the union, while she cannot make alliances with foreign countries, because she is not out of the union. Her people cannot vote for president, because they are not a part of the country, but they must pay tariff and other taxes and obey federal laws, for they are an integral factor of the republic.

Article 1, Constitution of the United States, says: "No person, except a natural born citizen of the United States, shall be eligible to the office of president. . . . Congress shall have power to levy and collect taxes, duties, imposts and excises, to pay the debts and pro-

vide for the common defense and general welfare of the United States; but all duties, imposts and excises shall be uniform throughout the United States."

And commenting on this, an exchange adds: "It was recently held by the supreme court of the United States in the Insular cases, that the phrase 'throughout the United States,' last above quoted, did not include territories, and that congress can pass any sort of a tariff law that it wants to for a territory. Now, then, it does not look unreasonable to contend that the same court if the question was presented, would hold that any person born in a territory, is not a 'natural born citizen' of the United States within the meaning of the quotation first above set out. If this is the law, and it looks as if it was, then every boy born in New Mexico is deprived of what everyone all along believed was a birthright."

New Mexico at present is an orphan with both parents living, a spectacle of inverted progress, a cunuch in the political harem, a community with the tastes and ambitions of the plutocrat and the means and abilities of the veriest Weary Willie that ever hit the pike.

Let statehood be the slogan!

Fairer Prices for Fruit.

The Hyde Exploring expedition, a corporation of which Richard Wetherell, formerly of Mancos, Colorado, is manager, with principal trading stores at Farmington, Thoreau, Pueblo Bonito, Two Grey Hills, Largo, and smaller ones at half a dozen points scattered over the northeastern portion of the Navajo Indian reservation, has gone into the fruit buying business in this county with a vengeance. Years ago, when the orchards of the county were young, apples and all fruits brought good prices. Then as the orchards multiplied and the harvests diminished during and after the panic prices were rather uncertain. In 1897 came a big crop in these valleys and light crops in some other places and Porter brothers of Chicago entered the field and began to buy the choicest apples. Then came other western firms, and prices as the rule were better. This year, however, the Hyde company has knocked all records dizzy. They have it said, contracted with W. N. Kight of Farmington, who owns the largest orchard in San Juan county, for all the fruit on his place—apples, peaches, pears, grapes, of all grades and sizes—at one cent a pound in the orchard. The Hyde people do the picking, the packing and the shipping and the one cent a pound goes for all the fruit on the ranch—good, bad and indifferent. There is very little good or indifferent fruit, however, in Mr. Kight's orchard—as in the case of other San Juan county fruit farms, the product is really all A 1.

Prices of this kind make fruit ranching highly profitable and in this direction the Hyde company is unquestionably doing the country great good.

The best improved ranch in the southwestern country, beautifully situated, can be purchased of the court house commission, as advertised elsewhere in this paper. Write to them if you want a ranch. Their address is Atzac, New Mexico.

The American Apple Crop.

How little we hear of the value of the apple crop, and yet on an average yield it is worth more than the average cotton crop. Of the great cereal crops only corn exceeds it in value year after year. Only occasionally and in exceptional years is wheat worth more.

According to the Independent the American apple crop for 1900 aggregated 215,000,000 barrels, being worth at an average price of \$2 per barrel the enormous aggregate of \$430,000,000.

Compare these figures with the following:

Crop	Value
Corn crop of 1899	\$69,314,110
Hay crop of 1899	\$1,284,162
Wheat crop of 1899	\$10,548,242
Cotton crop of 1899	\$6,467,941
Oat crop of 1899	\$8,167,293

In the case of most of these farm products the yield and its value from year to year is pretty accurately approximated. But the estimate of the Independent for obvious reasons may be millions of barrels out. No man or bureau knows what part of the apple crop is marketed and what utilized on the premises. Millions of barrels go into the production of cider, vinegar, jelly and preserves. Other millions go to the production of the best pie that mother ever made—to say nothing of "apple sauce."

Cucumbers for pickling, 15 cents a bushel, one-half mile north of Atzac.

A Review of Resources

New York County, Citizens Interviewed at the Capitol

The following interesting interview with our foreman, Dr. E. G. Condit, appeared in the Santa Fe New Mexican last week:

Dr. E. G. Condit, of Atzac, San Juan county, who has been in this city this week attending the session of the Grand Lodge of the I. O. O. F. of New Mexico, as representative of the lodge of Atzac, left this morning for home very well pleased with his stay and the treatment he received here and with the most complimentary and cordial of the order. In talking to a reporter of the Santa Fe New Mexican concerning the county the doctor said that it was forging rapidly to the front, and that there is no doubt many people are coming into the county, and real estate and farm property were advancing rapidly.

Dr. Wallace, of Atzac, secretary of the county, explained to Mr. J. W. Wilson, of the Santa Fe New Mexican, that it is more in the nature of a daily prospective meeting, being held for the purpose of the county and resources of the county and people are coming into the county, and real estate and farm property were advancing rapidly.

The fruit crop this season will be excellent as far as peaches and pines are concerned. The late apple crop is not so large as was expected, however, but the flavor and size of the apples will be superior to that of last year. The towns of Atzac and Farmington are doing remarkably well, there is a good deal of building going on and property is changing hands rapidly. There is a very strong probability that an electric railway will be built from Durango to Atzac and Farmington in a very short time. Should this be the case San Juan county will become one of the leading counties of the territory. The waters in the San Juan and Animas rivers are holding out very well and both are full and there is plenty of water for irrigation in the summer.

The pamphlet recently published by the bureau of immigration and specially that on San Juan county, are doing great good. They are being sent out and distributed all over the east and west and are bringing in settlers into the county. As the pamphlet does not overlook the conditions and resources of the county it is very interesting why it is doing so well.

Teachers' Normal Institute.

Following is the program of the San Juan County Teachers' Normal Institute. It is to be held at Farmington, commencing Monday, August 13, continuing ten days. All teachers are invited and expected to be present:

- 8 a. m. General exercises.
- 8:30 a. m. Arithmetic, G. A. Grommet, instructor.
- 9:30 a. m. History and Civil Government, C. G. Grommet, instructor.
- 10:30 a. m. Geography, Miss Waring, instructor.
- 11:30 a. m. Orthography, Miss Waring, instructor.
- 1:30 p. m. Grammar, Miss Waring, instructor.
- 3 p. m. Exercises on Advanced Taught.

Marshmallows, chocolates, creams, gumdrops, etc. Atzac Drug store.

PROFESSIONAL

- DR. T. J. WEST, PHYSICIAN, SURGEON, OBSTETRICIAN. Atzac, New Mexico.
- DR. E. G. CONDIT, PHYSICIAN AND SURGEON. Atzac, New Mexico.
- DR. F. E. WAGGONER, PHYSICIAN AND SURGEON. Atzac, New Mexico.
- DR. A. ROSENTHAL, PHYSICIAN AND SURGEON. Farmington, New Mexico.
- DR. O. G. MCKENNA, PHYSICIAN AND SURGEON. Office in Atzac, building.
- O. B. WEAVER, COUNTY CLERK. Atzac, New Mexico.
- E. S. WHITEHEAD, ATTORNEY AT LAW. Farmington, New Mexico.
- GRANVILLE PROBERTSON, ATTORNEY AT LAW. Atzac, New Mexico.

LEGAL NOTICES.

Articles of Incorporation of Chicago-New Mexico Oil Company.

STATE OF ILLINOIS, ss. Cook County, ss. The undersigned, Secretary of the Territory of New Mexico, do hereby certify that the following is a true and correct copy of the articles of incorporation of the Chicago-New Mexico Oil Company, as filed in the office of the Secretary of the Territory of New Mexico, on the 15th day of July, 1901.

1. The name of such corporation shall be Chicago-New Mexico Oil Co.

2. The objects for which it is formed are to acquire lands and to produce mineral oils and oil products, to transport such oils and products, to sell such products, and also to lease or use such lands.

3. The capital stock of said company shall be Five Hundred Thousand Dollars.

4. The number of shares of stock shall be at the discretion of the directors, who shall manage the business of said corporation for the first year, to-wit: James W. Wilson, J. Pendbrook Bishop, Charles V. Safford, George A. Hays, and Joseph Prewitt, residents of said Territory of New Mexico.

5. The principal office of said corporation for the management of its business shall be in the city of Chicago, in the State of Illinois, and its principal office in the Territory of New Mexico shall be in the city of Atzac, in the County of Santa Fe, in the State of New Mexico.

6. The undersigned, Secretary of the Territory of New Mexico, do hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of the articles of incorporation of the Chicago-New Mexico Oil Company, as filed in the office of the Secretary of the Territory of New Mexico, on the 15th day of July, 1901.

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THE ONLY HARDWARE STORE IN NORTHWESTERN NEW MEXICO

PRINTS AND OILS DOORS AND SASH

FRED BUNKER

Hardware, Tinware, Agricultural Implements, Buggies and Glass. Mail Orders Solicited.

AZTEC, NEW MEXICO

Aztec Livery, Feed and Sale Stable

CHARLES CARTER, Proprietor

Good Rip and Hardly Horses Always on Hand. Teams and Stock Drive the Best of Attention. General Livery Business Transacted.

AZTEC, NEW MEXICO.

W. H. WILLIAMS

Dry Goods, Groceries, Boots and Shoes, Hats and Caps, Hardware, Glassware, Queensware, Etc.

AZTEC, NEW MEXICO.

R. T. F. SIMPSON

Indian Trader

Located on the direct route from Durango, Farmington and Atzac to Gallup and all points on the Santa Fe Pacific railway.

Navajo, Blankets, Indian Curios, Silverware, Etc. Etc.

AZTEC, NEW MEXICO.

The Whitson Music Company

Various Organs, Musical Instruments, Sheet Music and Books.

Write for Catalogues and Prices.

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THE CHEAP CASH STORE

A FULL LINE OF GENERAL MERCHANDISE

Fresh Groceries, Boots and Shoes

Oats, Corn, Oats, Etc. Kept on Hand. Navajo Blankets in stock. New Goods Constantly Received. A share of your patronage solicited.

C. G. BREWER, AZTEC, New Mexico

ABSTRACTS OF TITLE

Carefully and correctly made of any property in San Juan county. Fifteen years' experience in searching titles.

Only Complete Set of Abstract Books in the County.

JOE PREWITT, Deputy County Clerk, Atzac, New Mexico

R. B. Whitford

Contractor and Builder

Business and Plans Prepared for Builders of all kinds.

Woodwork of all kinds Turned Out on Short Notice.

Shop south of Livery Stable.

AZTEC, N. M.

JUST FOUND!

That the place to get a good drink of

KEG BEER

Best white and light beer brewed from Whiskey.

AT L. D. MOORE'S, Atzac, New Mexico

The Only Keg Beer in Town.

R. C. PREWITT

INSURANCE

Farmington, New Mexico.

Represents the London Life and Fire Insurance Co. of London.

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FOURTH OF JULY RIDING AT GALENA

"Howdy mother, stinnin'!" argued Dillon, "tis a matter av importence. Wud ye have another shootin' Donnybrook? an' me a-bavin' av all the divilment, same as twix last year? Wud the reputashun av the camp, too, in the same av insinuation, have ye no heads for an emergency?"

Dillon was clearly in earnest, and when a man of his racial characteristics is in earnest things are likely to happen, whether the scene of action be Spitzbergen or Timbuctoo. His indignation at the stupidity of the mayor, the sheriff, and the names was offensive; but we could offer no suggestion that might stand for us as a combatant. There were men in the camp with official titles, and men very prone to swift and accurate shooting, but these collectively were as unhelpful as the breath of Dillon.

Galena was like most of all Northwestern mining towns; if at all distinguishable from them, it was by a slight accentuation of that air of bonhomie which is more or less apparent on the visages of all communities of the genus.

Dillon owned and generally presided over one of the biggest and brightest and most bemired of the combination saloons and gambling resorts.

Conceive, then, his popularity. He was the patron, the philanthropist, the benefactor of the town. And thus was it that we were called in conference, to be assistants to him in one of his great humanitarian functions; the mayor and the sheriff by reason of their political headship; I by some small commercial standing, being at that time the Galena manager of the Fourth of July was hard upon us, and Dillon was committee hunting that action might be taken to prepare for the advent of this glorious day.

The mayor, the sheriff, and I sat in a back room of the saloon, listening intently to Dillon's harangue. After he had given us every opportunity to suggest ways and means for the day of entertainment, fruitlessly, he elucidated to us his own idea of a program, which was voted on and adopted by unanimous and immediate consent. This narrative deals solely with the first number of the program, so you will be compelled to surmise the others from it.

"We will begin," says Dillon, "in the morning, wud what ye might designate a footymint. This is the way av it: We will have rounded up a bunch av thim divil av broncos, an' we will also have rounded up a bunch av jolly boys; we will beguile the boys to the backs av the broncos, an' we will give the best buster av thim a foin' fat purse—which he will spin immediately. This, ye may understand, is legitimit, wud excellent enough to kape av the raw ledge av their time. This we will—" but this is as much as concerns us.

Galena was a busy little town. Every man in Montana that could distinguish by spin from pritties or iron worked it, and it was a central center of a vast expanse of stock country. Dillon's was the extreme inner point of this centrality; the meeting house and council chamber of prominent citizens, the rendezvous of a wide assortment of the erring human animal. Dillon had need to be a splendid whip, and he was. Skittish leaders or sullen wheelers, vicious or gentle, all alike felt the strong hand on the box.

A goodly purse was collected against the coming of the popular event. Dillon's "ante" (his own word) was a hundred, and a number of others came down handsomely. But in the interval between the statement of the idea and the day of fulfillment there arose the necessity for some modification in the plans. Dillon had relied on procuring a number of bad and unbroken horses, and on having the many volunteer riders break them on time, or something of that sort. When the trial was made, however, it was found impossible to bring together the required number of sure-enough bad horses; that is, horses which could be depended on to make excitement under any circumstances; so a big list of shapped and slobbered competitors could not, consequently, be accommodated.

It was decided that each of the two greatest cow valleys which converged near Galena should set up its best man, the most superlatively regal of its king busters. This concentrated interest, which, when the eve of the great day really arrived, was possibly several degrees beyond blood temperature.

The morning of the Fourth dawned in all the chaste radiance of July in the foothills, such a day as recompenses a man for a year lived in a hut, 160 miles from the nearest railroad artery, and, as they say in Montana, "only half a mile from hell."

Directly after breakfast those ranch people from the rival valleys, and from all adjacent sections, who had not been fortunate enough to get in the night before, began to concentrate in the camp.

Dillon drew me out to the veranda. "By me sowl, 'twill be beautiful," says he. "We have a brace av the beasts av wud mishare the divil, an' the boys av foin' av achin' for the sport. Ye'll see ut to the day, me son." He was in merriest spirits himself, and I should have enjoyed some of the effervescence of his rollicking blarney; but his unwavering sense of duty to the day compelled him to drink more frequently than I had reason to believe by remarking that he "reckoned it didn't make much difference about the shavin', as Curlew was satisfied with a 'scent' av his head."

But the South Valley contingent gathered at this, and Dillon routed it as unparliamentary. So old Joe and the South Valley man cast for choice, and the throw was Joe's. He gruffly chose the horse that should be nearer the corral gate. Then they shook out again for precedence in order of riding, and this time the South Valley broncho buster won, electing to ride second. There was one other contestant, who did not throw—but I am anticipating my story.

After these preliminaries all roads pointed corralward, the exodus even stripping Dillon's bar of its deft attendants. The corral was situated at the open extremity of the gulch, on a flat of much lower level than that of Dillon's and the other main division of the town.

When I got down the flat was cleared for action, and the man called Curlew was preparing to ride.

He had barely time to draw his sleeve across his perspiring face when the half-choked and bewildered pony had leaped, like a flash, to his feet; at the same fractional part of a second, Curlew was lightly ensconced in the saddle, straddled and pulling off the pony's hood. Blinded by the sun, dazed and frightened by the weight on his back, the bay stood quivering for a short space, but at a stinging cut from Curlew's quirt dispersed his hooded eyes to one side, and the horse immediately lapped into his usual drooping attitude of watchful sleepiness. Some of us ran to assist Rawlins, who lay just as he had fallen, too weak to rise. But he waved us back; his face was malignant with shame and anger, and distorted by pain; altogether, with the pallor and the blood-streaked beard, he was not an exhilarating sight. Rolling over to his side, he raised himself partially on an elbow, and before we could close on him had drawn his Colt's and fired. The big gun spoke sharply, and with a moan that was almost human the buckskin pony lurched heavily to the ground.

We reached Rawlins in time to take the smoking revolver from his nerveless grasp; but as he fell back again, I heard him mutter thickly: "There, Curlew, ye, y' mud-skinned hell-hound! I'll wear no more men out!"

and for two blessed hours maintained the pace without a falter. Nor in all that heart-breaking period did his lineal progress exceed 100 yards! It was most astonishing, not one superfluous movement was made; he simply kept on and on, each jump being almost semicircular, that is, landing with his head where his tail had started from, and vice versa.

This is what the cowpunchers call changing ends, and it is not difficult to imagine the effect of such a protracted merry-go-round sensation on the rider. The bucking was neither high nor fierce, but the strain of that continuous swirl must have been racking. There was one slight variation which the scrubby buckskin allowed himself in his system, though this was of such nature as to be rather disconcerting to a rider with a head already far from steady. It was to "turn in the air" after the usual fashion, but instead of alighting on stiffened legs, to fall clumsily on one side, the pony saving himself by bending his foreleg back under him. It was an ugly trick to evade, and the black New Mexican must have been clear grit to hold his own so long. His face grew pallid and drawn, and after while his stomach revolved.

At the close of the second hour he was helpless; his will was still in the thing, but his body was limp and ineffective, and the blood slowly trickled from his nose and ears. The pony still worked with the monotonous regularity of a steam exhaust, and the end was unquestionably near.

When it came the man was sprawled on one side, and the horse immediately lapped into his usual drooping attitude of watchful sleepiness. Some of us ran to assist Rawlins, who lay just as he had fallen, too weak to rise. But he waved us back; his face was malignant with shame and anger, and distorted by pain; altogether, with the pallor and the blood-streaked beard, he was not an exhilarating sight. Rolling over to his side, he raised himself partially on an elbow, and before we could close on him had drawn his Colt's and fired. The big gun spoke sharply, and with a moan that was almost human the buckskin pony lurched heavily to the ground.

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The prostrate broncho-buster's friends had taken him up, and Dillon was in the midst of a brilliant address, awarding with much ornate language the purse to Curlew, when an incident in the form of anti-climax took the floor from the speaker and wound up the sport with a hearty burst of good-natured acclamation.

I had the history of this incident afterward. It seems that the boys of the town—the juveniles, I mean—had organized and schemed to place an unregistered and unexpected entry in the contest; and their scheme was eminently successful—and amusing. The camp supported a little half-breed youth of about 12 years, a marvel in his love for and command over horses; he must have been born and reared upon their backs, so easily did he become them. It was this urchin, Pedro by name, who was elected to represent the younger faction in the riding. There was one difficulty that would have baffled most boys; no bad horse was forthcoming, but Pedro was so abnormally indifferent as to the nature or build of his mount that even this was an easy adjustment. At the extreme upper end of the town was a butcher's cow corral, and in it confined a bunch of cattle near the range; one of these, a great red and white 4-year-old steer, was selected, and Pedro eagerly started on his ride to fame.

Dillon was getting well warmed to his much-prepared and patriotic oration, when Pedro and the frantic steer appeared, rushing down the pitch from the town above. There was an unstrained howl from the assemblage, in which even Dillon joined, and the dirty, dare-devil brat shot out an awing grin from the careening back of his astonished steed. It was a thing to make the old gull quiver with laughter. Some one had dressed the boy especially for the game; he had on a pair of heavy fringed, full-steeled shaps, at least eight inches too long for him, and only kept from entirely covering his feet by the shanks of a pair of huge Mexican spurs, all bells and bangles. His implem was surmounted by a 6-inch sombrero, a heavy quilt in one hand and in the other a coil of rawhide lariat, which was looped only over the steer's horns.

And how that animal was twisting himself, head down and tail up! But the boy clung like a taraxacum, by what means I have no conjecture. It is well known that a steer has no withers, that he can buck through the cinchas of any saddle, and a cowboy without a saddle is not formidable. Yet there was that lean youth heaving, hampered by the awkward trappings he had put on him, perched on his arching, ungirded steed with all the pert composure of a tomtil on a pump handle, which is old Joe's simile.

"Cum av av av, ye young limb," shouted Dillon, as the steer rushed madly by us; the boy waited, however, till the crowd was passed, and then, skillfully twitching his rope from the steer's horns, slid harmlessly to the ground. He could scarcely walk for the grotesque accoutrements, but when he did reach us, the boys greeted him riotously.

"Give the money to the kid," said Curlew laconically. "That's a trick I can't do," and midst clamors of commendation and assent the half-breed urchin was given the purse.

Delicate Pair of Scales.
The most delicate pair of scales in the United States are in the treasury department's bureau of weights and measures. So delicate are these scales that they will weigh accurately a ten-millionth part of a gram. They are so sensitive that the warlike given off by the body of a person approaching them near enough to open the glass case or to shift the weights would expand the balance arms and produce an appreciable error in the results. Therefore they have been so constructed that they may be operated at a distance of 30 feet. The readings are made through a small telescope.

Height of Pine Trees.
According to Professor Spalding, the white pine tree seldom attains a height greater than 160 feet of a diameter of more than forty inches. Trees of this variety once measured by the division of forestry of the department of agriculture was 170 feet tall and forty-eight inches thick. The tree was 180 years old. It was a little sapling fifty years before Columbus sailed from Spain.

FACTS ABOUT THE COUNTRY.

The shortest name—Co for County. Most, the biggest in Area. Some peculiar facts are being brought out by the twelfth census concerning the counties, says the New York Sun. For instance, the shortest name of a county is I, in Oklahoma, while the longest is Saline John the Baptist, a parish in Louisiana. Nebraska had a county named L'Etang au Coeur, but the people had it changed to plain Knox in 1873, since which time it has grown from 78 to 18,343. Vernon county, Wisconsin, was formerly known as Bad Axe. Minnesota once named a county Toombs, then changed it to Andy Johnson, and now it appears as Wilkin. North Dakota boasted a county called Gin Grass, but it was changed to Wells. Twenty-six states have honored Washington with a county bearing his name; twenty-one states have a Jefferson and a Jackson county; Lincoln appears in sixteen states. Montana has the county with the largest area, Carter, which covers 32,490 square miles; the second largest is San Bernardino county, California, with 19,947 square miles. Both counties are larger than either Maryland, Massachusetts, Connecticut, Delaware, New Hampshire, New Jersey, Rhode Island or Vermont. The smallest county in Bristol, Rhode Island, which has only twenty-five square miles, and Alexandria county, Virginia, with thirty-two square miles. Texas has 245 counties, the largest number. Delaware has three counties, and Rhode Island five. Wyoming and Arizona have the unlikeliest names of thirteen each. Texas covers 257,790 square miles, and is not half so large as Alaska, which has 590,834 square miles. Montana comes next to Texas in size and has 146,080 square miles. The District of Columbia covers the smallest area of any division—seventy square miles. There are several counties lost, strayed or stolen. Nothing has been heard from Mankanta county, Minnesota, since 1850, when it had a population of 1533. Wahana county, in the same state, disappeared about the same time with a population of two more than the other. Carson county, Nevada, has been missing since 1860. Among the other counties which have disappeared are one of the Dawson counties, in Texas; Cedar county, Utah, and Lyons county, Nebraska.

THE BOER AND THE BRITON.
The Former Expects as a Marksmen, but the Latter Takes Chances.

I have often been asked as to what I thought of the relative merits of the Boer and British as soldiers, says Adelbert S. Hay, United States consul at Pretoria, in Collier's Weekly. My opinion is worth very little, but from what I have seen I can form an estimate. Of the British, both men and officers too much cannot be said. The British officer, it seems to me, is at times foolishly brave. That is to say, he is impressed with the necessity of inspiring his men and showing a contempt for death or danger. It has often been said that this is magnificent, but it is not war. I am not quite sure that I agree as to that. When the man in the pan knows that his officer is not shrinking and that he has no fear of consequences, it makes him courageous and inspires him to do his best. The English soldier is plucky, dogged and usually contented. I do not think he has the adaptability of the American soldier, but he impresses me very favorably. The Boer, of course, has the advantage over the Britisher—as I think he would have over the soldiers of any nation in the world—of being a natural born shot. From infancy the Boer has been hunting big game and has been accustomed to the use of firearms. Distances on the veldt are extremely deceptive owing to the atmospheric conditions, and it is difficult for a man not trained to that form of outdoor life to be able to accurately determine the range. The Boer, on the other hand, having always led the life of a hunter with a keenly trained eye, has his adversary at a disadvantage. That explains why in the principal engagements the loss of life on the British side was so heavy and the casualties among the Boers comparatively few. The British infantryman is probably as good a marksman as can be found in any other army, but he is hopelessly outclassed as against the Boer.

Mental Ability.
Mental ability is, of course, in some cases, always inherited. But so mysterious and subtle are the laws of nature in this respect that it is impossible to speak with positiveness on the phenomena exhibited in the mental developments inherited. Everybody knows that parents of great talent have stupid children, and that many of our ablest men come of parents who never exhibited great talent. It is not an uncommon thing for a child to exhibit talents far superior to those of either of its parents. The reason, doubtless, is that in the child the good qualities of both parents are united, and the undesirable traits omitted. This subject, however, is enveloped in mystery, and will probably always elude the researches of man.

Lady Doctor of Science.
Mrs. Sarah Yorke Stevenson of the department of archaeology in the University of Pennsylvania, has been made a doctor of science by the university. She was one of the founders of the archaeological department in the university, one of the first members of the American Exploration society, and is a member of many scientific societies in different parts of the world. She has been sent to Rome and to Egypt on archaeological tours, and through her co-operation with the British Egyptian Research association, Philadelphia and the university have received valuable relics from the Nile valley.

Accidentally Killed.
Did he leave his family anything? If badly hurt or sick, are they provided for? These are vital questions. The Western Life & Accident Co. has the best policy in the world—Life, Accident, Health, separately or all combined. No man or woman can afford to take chances. A policy for either sex from sixteen to sixty. Send age and occupation for particulars. Agents wanted in every town. No experience required. Write to Western Life, Fire, and Accident Co., Denver, Colo.

Long Live the King! The King is Wizard Oil; pain his enemies, whom he conquers.

There can be no doubt that men get bald sooner than women, because they don't wear their hair so long.

Hall's Catarrh Cure. Is a constitutional cure. Price, 75c.

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Wife Remotely Cured. This is a true story of a wife who was cured of her nervous system by the use of Dr. King's Great Peppermint Cure. For FREE 25-cent bottle and treatise, Dr. R. H. King, 165-167 Arch St., Philadelphia, Pa.

Of evil money is the root, and yet mankind won't stop. We all turn farmers, and we try. To raise another crop.

If you wish to have beautiful, clear white clothes, use "Zona" Bleaching Blue, the famous blue dye.

Some Kansas statisticians have figured that every baby is worth \$2,000 to the state. It is safe to say he didn't accept the parent's figures.

KING GETS DOG FASHION.

British Biter's Toy Bull Initiated by London's Smartest Set.

The most noted pet dog in England is King Edward's bulldog, Peter, whose portrait has recently been painted by Miss Maudie Earl. Peter is the finest bred toy bull in the world and holds the championship of Great Britain. He frequently attends his royal master in his walks and drives. Toy dogs are the "smart" women's dominant craze this season and toy dogs have doubled in price in consequence. Many women who have them merely to be up to date or "even with" in current slang, systematically drug and dose the unfortunate animals to render them quiet and inoffensive. The dogs last only about ninety days under this treatment. There is also a new pet dog doctor in St. Jones street, who spurs up their jaded nerves with an electrical apparatus.

The New Bicycle.
Bicycle manufacturers state that the bicycle for this year will be practically the same model as 1900, as improvement seems to be impossible. Precisely the same in type of frame as the previous model, it represents the limits of science, and it is impossible to make a better machine for the stomach, liver, kidneys and blood. Try it for dyspepsia, indigestion, constipation, biliousness, sour stomach, and you will be convinced. Never take a substitute.

He—Your father ought to know what I have to say to him. I have been waiting here so long. She—I am afraid he has given up all hope.

A. (at the tavern)—Why don't you have another glass of—Oh, I don't! My wife makes me thread a needle every night when I get home to see if I'm sober!

The admirers of Eugene Field will be interested in a new volume of verses by him published by Tandy, Wheeler & Co., 1125-1127 Broadway, New York. The volume is printed in the Denver Tribune when Mr. Field was on its editorial staff. Many of the poems have a local interest to Coloradans in addition to their literary merit. All of them are permeated with that sympathy and pathos which was such a marked characteristic of his later work. We understand the advance sale of this book has been very large, and it will undoubtedly run through several editions.

Johnson—Do you mean to intimate that I can't tell the truth? Parkinson—By no means. It is impossible to say what a man can do till he tries.

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Pianos Organs
Sheet Music

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EXPERT WATCHMAKER AND JEWELER
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DRIP US A LINE.
SEND US YOUR WORK.

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FIRST NATL. BANK

Extraordinary Sale
of **TEA** At 65c per lb.
With each pound of Tea, One Japanese Water Drop Teapot is Given.

You pay 65 cents a pound elsewhere for Tea as good as this, without the Teapot. Why not buy it where you get this fine Teapot given? You can make better tea in one of these Teapots than in tin or enameled ware.

Also, usual line of Dress Goods, Ribbons, Trimmings, Corsets, Bustles, Dress Shields, Etc.

J. M. RANDALL,
AZTEC, N. M.

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OF DURANGO.
Established 1881.

Capital, \$57,000.00
Surplus Fund, 5,000.00

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Officers: P. CAMP, President; OBY L. McNEAL, Vice President; W. P. VAILE, Cashier.

Colorado State Bank,
DURANGO, COLORADO

Will give careful attention. This message to the men and the ladies alike. COMBINED SAVINGS AND COMMERCIAL BANK. Interest allowed in the savings department at 4 per cent per annum, interest compounded quarterly. Bank money orders issued at lower rates than Express or Post Office Money Orders.

Officers: N. H. FREEMAN, President; H. C. CHAPMAN, Vice President; J. B. REINHOLD, Assistant Cashier.

Smelter City State Bank
OF DURANGO, COLO.

CAPITAL, \$300,000.00

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LLOYD C. SHEETS, Assistant Cashier

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- BARBER SHOP -

the place to go when you want a bath, shave, a haircut or anything in the barber line. First-class work.

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In order to get rich everybody must live and in order to live everybody must get vaccinated. See Aztec Drug store.

Elder Henry will preach at the La Plata school next Sabbath at 11 a. m. and at the Thomas school house at 4 p. m.

Dr. J. J. Risk, A. L. Fisher, E. G. Berry and Lester Waggoner went out to Westwater this week to make some oil fillings.

D. J. Craig, Esq., was up from Farmington Saturday and met with the brethren of Aztec Lodge, I. O. O. F., that evening.

E. B. Byer, of the Blain hotel in Durango, was here this week, visiting an old time acquaintance, Capt. H. H. Knowlton and family, of Aztec.

Dr. E. G. Condit and G. W. Lamberson went to Farmington Tuesday to meet with the members of Farmington Lodge No. 24, I. O. O. F., that evening.

From Pagosa Springs News: "W. L. Paddock, wife and child, and Mrs. Regnier and child, of La Plata, N. M., have been camping in the park the past week."

Dave Lewis' ranches on the La Plata river in this county will fit in estimated produce between 3,000 and 4,000 tons of hay this season. Some money in that sort of thing, you bet.

Mr. and Mrs. Frank Baker, Miss Ester Brown and Manfred Williams attended the dance at Akers' saw mill on the Florida last Saturday evening and report a large attendance and enjoyable time.

James Jarvis, formerly one of the employees of the Hyde Exploration company at Farmington, has moved his family to Aztec and is occupying the residence at the mill, where he will be employed.

The Pagosa Springs News says: "E. E. Murdock passed through Pagosa Saturday on route for Chama, where he will finish teaching his term of school. Mr. Murdock spent a two weeks vacation at Cedar Hill and Aztec, N. M."

Judge Granville Pendleton, of Aztec, is the only real estate dealer in this section. Call on him and list your property or make your wants known if you wish to buy real estate, town lots, an orchard, a residence or a ranch. He corresponds with eastern buyers.

Heavy rains have fallen on the La Plata during the last few days; the ditches there are full, and grass crops are assured. The yield of hay and grain will be something worth mentioning in that valley this year. It is a paradise, a garden spot and an oasis, all in one.

The communion of the Lord's supper will be observed next Sabbath morning in the Presbyterian church. All the church members are requested to be present and members of regular standing in other evangelical churches are cordially invited to partake of this communion.

The Gallup Republican says: "R. P. Bechard, manager of the Colorado Supply store, has hired five men to join a surveying party which will arrive here next Monday from Durango to make a survey of the Gulf & Colorado railroad, under which name the Chifton and Durango road has been incorporated at Durango."

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