Tuesday, March 31, 1874.

FARM AND HOUSEHOLD ITEMS

We invite communications from all persons who are interested in matters properly belonging to this de-

Herding Cattle in New Mexico.

This has its bright as well as its dark side. The changes that each and every day bring forth are many and various .-Quietly watching the herd as they feed along the margin of a beautiful stream, separated into little social groups (for they seem to form attachments almost human,) one will notice that certain of the herd always band together, and while some are nervously walking about, nipping here and there a bunch of grass, a bush, or pulling off with a jerk a twig from the hanging branches of the wide-spreading trees, others are quietly grazing with that steady clip, clip, and swinging motion of the head peculiar to the bovine family; others lying listlessly in the shade chewing their cuds of comfort; while many of them are standing up to their knees in water, cooling their fevered and fly bitten hocks. In fact the whole herd are enjoying a bovine's paradise. At such times as this the berder's time hangs heavily on his hands; his pony, (or boroncos, small Mexican horses,) is slowly dragging his lariat after him as he feeds from place to place, while the saddle and other traps are piled up or spread out around the camp, and the herders are passing their time playing cards at so much a corner.

With a herd of cattle numbering five thousand, there will be five or six men and an overseer. The duties of these men are tight while there is grass near the streams. But the scene changes as the season advances, and day by day the distance becomes greater from the grass to the water, and the trouble of herding commences .-The cattle are inclined to separate and stray away, and it requires all the time as well as tact and skill of the experienced hand to keep them within bounds. Even then there will be some of them that will get lost; but the "round up", which takes place once in about three months tells the number missing and the number acquired from the neighboring ranchmen. The different owners of cattle, when they wish to "round up," will send word to the different home stations, and delegates from each will attend and assist in cutting out the estrays. The different delegations then take charge of the squad belonging to them respectively. These men sometimes travel fifty or sixty miles to reach the rendezvous; and there will be from twenty-five to a hundred men assembled to the grand "round up," which takes place once a year .- Rural New Yorker.

Sending Live-Stock to England.

It appears by a paragraph which we note in an English paper, that some attention is being given to the question whether livestock could not be profitably imported from America to Great Britain, and thus aid that country in solving her great and growing question-the food supply. In order to test the feasibility of this idea, it is said a Mr. Bell bargained with the Anchor Line to bring with him each trip twenty-four head of cattle, and that every importation was a success. The cost, including freight, feed and insurance, is said to have been about \$70 per head, and it is said that he made a clear profit of \$50 on each animal. They are talking, in view of these successes, of making steamers with an especial view to accommodate cattle, and with these cattle-steamers they expect to do a very profitable trade.

It is hardly likely that this will ever ripen to a permanent business. Cattle are rather high in Europe just now in consequence of the great losses by the pleuropneumonia and other diseases; and it is perhaps this high price made so by accidental causes, which has made these experiments a success. Still men are not apt to invest money in steamboat enterprises, which will require years to bring back, without studying the ground pretty well; and it may be that the time will ooms when the cattle-trade across the Attantic will be as profitable an undertaking as the passenger traffic in many cases has proved to be.

Salt for Pear Trees.

The Horticulturist says : "Last year we introduced the topic of salting around pear trees to prevent the blight. We learn on a recent visit to Central New York, that the practice is becoming general, and regular applications yearly of 400 to 600 pounds per acre, are now the custom."

Never plow or harrow soil when it is too wet. This advice is particularly applicable to stiff clay soils, or to light soils over a heavy clay subsoil. Any stirring of the soil when too wet has a tendency to the same effect as is produced in brick making, and makes the soil dry off in hard clods, on which the harrow will produce but little effect. It will pay better to wait for the ground to dry off.

Chartered March 11, 1870.

U.B.

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come members. For other information, and GEO, A. MARK, Sec'y U. B. Mutual Aid Society, Lebanon, Pa. On, D. S. EARLY, Gen. Ag't, Harrisburg, Pa. L. W. CRAUMER, Asc't. Gen. Ag't, General Agent's Office, corner of 9th Street, and Hall Boad, LEBANON, PA. 818m*

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