The Supply Wanter Refere on Increasing mand,
James S. Brisbin writes an interesting letter from Fort Keogh, Montana Territory, to the New York Herald,

from which we take the following: "The beef famine prevailing in some parts of the East has excited great interest in the West. Beef cattle of all kinds have gone up \$5 to \$6 per head, although the stock raisers say they see no good reason for such a rise. beef famine is merely a panic, and will soon be over, but it is a warning of what really may occur if we do not take pains to raise more beef. Three years ago the writer tried by a series of articles in Wilke's Spirit, to awaken some interest in the beef production, and later wrote and published a book by the Lippincott's on the subject. The panie of 1882 was predicted and also a beef famine in 1885, unless more cattle were raised. It is now too late to avoid the panie, for it is upon us, but we may still save ourselves from a real famine by active measures in the production of beef. It is my opinion that we have been in a beef famine for the last ten years, though we did not know A four-year old steer can be raised on the plains for \$7, and the meat of the animal ought not to command in any part of the United States over ten cents per pound dressed. That a cattle raiser should make twenty, thirty, forty, and even fifty per cent. per annum profit on the money he has invested in cattle is outrageous, but he will yet make still more than that if

STATISTICS OF CATTLE. "A careful examination of the statistics of cattle production in the United States will show that the increase of cattle has not kept apace with the increase of population, and the only wonder is that beef is us cheap as it is, 1840 the average number of cattle in America to every 100 persons was less than 100 head, and in 1850 only about 75 head to 100 persons. In 1860 the States and Territories had the following ratio: Alabama, 81 head; Arkansas, 126; California, 387; Connecticut, 48; Delaware. 51; Florida, 274; Georgia, 95; Illinois, 87; Indiana, 87; Iowa, 79; Maine, 59; Maryland, 87; Massachusetts, 22; Michigan, 71; Minnesota, 68; Miss-issippi, 91; Missouri, 98; New Hampshire, 81; New Jersey, 84; New York, 50; North Carolina, 69; Ohio, 70; Ore-292; Pennsylvania, 48: Rhode Island, 22; South Carolina, 72; Tennessee, 68; Texas, 579; Vermont, 115; Vircinia, 65; Wisconsin, 66; District of Columbia, 1; Dakota, 30; Nebraska, 100; New Mexico, 108; Utah, 100; Washington Territory, 259. Since 1860 four States and Territories have increased their stock, and five have stood still, and thirty have decreased, while the population has steadily increased.

more people do not go into stock rais-

ing as a business.

"A good many cattle companies have been formed of late years, and, so far as I know, all are doing well. We have several here in Montana, and they are able to declare an annual dividend of twenty-five per cent., besides reserving a handsome surplus for increasing the herds. It is a remarkable fact that there is more English capital at present invested in cattle growing in the United States than American money. This year the Englishmen are resping a rich reward for their enterprise, and are pound, live weight, which cost them there are too few cattle in America for the population, and they are using it to fill their pockets. We must have more cattle, more cattle raisers and more cap-

ital with which to raise cattle. A LUCRATIVE BUSINESS. "For the next ten years I believe cattle raising will be one of the most lu-crative callings in the United States, and those who have the good fortune to be able to engage in it will rapidly grow rich. The best way is to associate capital in large numbers. It costs no more to take care of three thousand steers than it does one thousand, and profits are more than three times as large. In starting it is simply a ques-tion of money to buy cows and bulls for stock purposes. In 1840 there were 4,837,000 mileh cows in the United States; in 1850 there were 6,385,093; in 1860 7,727,763; in 1870 11,000,000, and in 1870 15,000,000 and in 1880 15,000,000. There cannot now be less than 15,000,000 cows in America, and the poorest man and his family. The first step is to stop killing female calves. Every female calf should be saved. The Western stock men have begun this, and already it is almost impossible for butchers to purchase calves for veal. In the West it is not so difficult to raise cattle for beef as in the East. The cattle run out all the winter long, and no shelter or food is required for them except that which nature provides. Every year the stock men start the story East for the benefit of the "tenderfeet" that the stock business is overdone, and the good ranges all taken. This is done to prevent new men from going into the business. The stock men know they have a good thing, and wish to keep it as long as possible. They would like to see beef tion and then repeats his prayers. Having finished he advances to the old men from going into the business. The steer worth \$10, without the slightest priest at the entrance to the inner temple compunctions of conscience, if they thought they could get it. If I The priest then lights a "Josh candle," had two or three thousand head of cattle I doubt if I would write this letter, but, unfortunately, not having any herd of my own, I am only interested in getin saying that associated capital en-gaged in beef raising out West will pay an annual dividend of 24 per cent., if it

Virtue dwells at the head of a river, to which we cannot get but by rowing he opened the doors of the cabinet and against the stream,

is at all properly managed.

THE TEMPLE OF THE MOON.

Sights and Surroundings of a Great Japa-A correspondent writing from Hiogo,

Japan, to the Detroit Free Press, says : Kobe ranks next to Yokohama among the treaty ports as regards business and foreign population, but as a place of residence it has many advantages over the latter place. The principal business is the preparing of tea, and the large houses are all near the "bund," as the water front is called. In front of the European settlement or concession long grass plat runs along the seawall, and fronting on this plat, their upper windows affording a fine view of the sea, are the consulates and hotels as well as numerous private residences. Connected with Kobe is the Japanese City Hiogo, one of the most important places in Japan, and one with many temples. Kobe is noted throughout Japan for the fine carving and engraving that are done here in ivory, wood and tortoiseshell. One of the places of most interest to foreigners is the Kobe-Club. The club-house is large and situated in the outer edge of the town, close to the sea. The grounds are beautifully decorated with evergreens and flowers, and the house itself, consisting of reading room, billiard rooms, bowling alley, whist room and library, is cool and roomy. The library consists of about 500 wellassorted books, and in the reading room all the prominent magazines of Europe and America are to be found. Opposite the club-house is Recreation Park, placed at the disposal of the foreigners by the government as a cricket ground. Fronting on the park is the gymnasium, also fitted as a baliroom and theatre. There is not much in Kebe itself to interest a stranger, outside the "curio" stores where one may price \$2,509 Satsuma vases, rare tea sets, old armor, etc.; but the hills around the town contain many spots of interest.

On one of the higher hills, some

4,000 or 5,000 feet above the sea level, is the Temple of the Moon, one of the many Buddhist temples to be found in Japan. Having a great desire to see this temple I started early on a Sunday morning. Calling a "jiri-rikisha," I told the man where to go, and left the direction to his knowledge of the town. After a ride of about five minutes the rikisha man suddenly stopped in front of a "tea house," as the taverns in Japan are called, and said that he could take me no farther. At the very start I had my choice of two roads. Trusting blindly in the guide's judgment, I followed the road pointed out by him, which passed up the valley between two hills. The path was broad and fair for a long distance, when it became very rocky and narrowed down in one place to a width of twenty feet between the sides of the hills, while the branches of the trees met and interlaced overhead, forming a natural tunnel, damp from the moisture on the moss-covered rocks, but cool and refreshing to the weary walker. From this point the path became very rough, and it was soon evident that it did not lead to the temple. Retracing my steps, I soon had the satisfaction of seeing people passing back and forth on the brow of one of the hills. As a short cut, I determined to climb the hill, a resolution I regretted very shortly. The first part of the as-cent was easy, out the last two hundred feet was quite perpendicular, dangerous selling American beef at six cents per and wearisome in the extreme. Arrived at the top, I saw the longed-for road a less than two cents to raise. There is few feet below me. Having rested, I there are some good reasons for believreally no immediate occasion for alarm started joyfully out on a good broad ing that a similar experiment in various about a cattle famine, as cattle are not yet so scarce as to create any great the hill, ever ascending. But my joy equally advantageous. It has been obyet so scarce as to create any great stress in the meat market. But the speculators have got hold of the fact that soon gave way to weariness when on appeared on the brow of the next one.

Sitting down to rest on the brow of the hill, the cool sea breeze sweeping up the hillside and the lovely view soon restored my strength and good-nature. Looking down the valley one could see the level country studded with villages, green rice fields and small ponds for irrigating purposes lying calm and beauteous in the noonday sun, while the shores of the "Inland Sea" curved far away in the distance. Sails dotted the sea everywhere, and the ships at anchor looked no larger than rowboats. The white line of dust marking the route of the Kioto railway wound serpont-like among the green fields, while the smoke from the numerous paper ture, but that on the contrary, they mills in Hiogo ascended lazily. Japanmills in Hiogo ascended lazily. Japanese, clad in gala dress, were passing through the roots.

The quantity of only by the voice of a man at occasional is given off through intervals, rested on the whole scene. Resuming my way, I passed down the hill into the valley, and commenced the ascent of the next hill. The path was these, if properly handled, will soon ascent of the next hill. The path was stock the country with sufficient beef to bring the price within the reach of turn one came across beggars sitting the price within the reach of the next hill. The path was stock the country with sufficient beef turn one came across beggars sitting the price within the reach of the next hill. The path was stock the country with sufficient beef turn one came across beggars sitting the price within the reach of the next hill. smoking by the side of a small fire of turgs. The ascent was steep, indeed, and nothing save the merry laughter of a Jap. family whom I had joined, and a strong determination not to allow a girl do more than I could, kept me a-going. After climbing for some time the path ended at a series of flights of stone steps, some forty odd steps in each flight. At the head of each one were tea houses, and at the head of the whole series was the temple. In the temple were numerous idols,

and in front of each offerings for the departed. In the main temple was a large box, in front of which hung cords it. Hence the long and fearful drought

On the invitation of the priest I removed my shoes and advanced into the ting beef as cheaply as possible from inner temple. The floor was covered those who have herds. I hope soon to with heavy matting. In the center of with heavy matting. In the center of see more people and more capital engaged in cattle raising, and beef brought to some reasonable price by reason of its abundance, and I have no hesitation wearing a golden crown. In front of the cabinet hung a heavily lacquered chandelier, and on each side were smaller gods with their offerings of rice, candy, etc., in front of them. On presenting the priest with some money

did by closely examining everything I could see. On each side of the main temple were smaller ones with other gods and their offerings. Taken altogether the trip was worth the walk.

The day after visiting the Temple of the Moon, while at a smaller temple in Hiogo I was unfortunate enough to witness a Japanese cremation, and for some days thereafter my dreams were any-thing but pleasant. The place of cremation was in an old hut directly in rear of the temple. The body, which had been forced into a tub which resembled nothing more than a "Sake tub," was brought in, laid on a framework and then covered with straw and fagots. The executioner, for so we had named him, then lit the straw, and sitting down commenced smoking his pipe. As the body became heated it egan to expand, and finally the tub burst. A horrible sight was the result. The corpse-it was that of an adult male-had been forced into such a small space that it was doubled up in a knot, becan to straighten out. First an arm raised itself, then both legs, then the other arm until, as though still endowed with life, the whole body turned completely over on the frame, while the flesh burned and a horrible stench filled the whole place. Sick, disgusted and yet fascinated we gazed on the scene, while the operator, leaving his pipe, took a long stick and rolled the body back and forth so that it might burn more evenly. The firing was kept up till the body was entirely consumed. As the last bone dropped in the ashes now-the fact of which you speak-and we drew a long breath of relief and turned to go. The man seeing that I held in my hand a cigar which I had been smoking kindly offered me a burning stick from the fire to light it with. Giving him one look of disgust I turned and fled. It was a horrible ceremony, but a successful one, for the ground is incumbered now with the many graves, and some means must be taken to get rid of the dead.

How Trees Influence Rainfall and Climates.

In a general way there begins to be spreading a popular belief that forests ncrease the rainfall of the country. As to how this is done, however, no very definite idea prevails. Scientific men have been recently making some very interesting experiments in this field. The results show strongly that forests do exercise a decided favorable influence on climate and the water supply.

It is not conclusively established that they directly cause heavy rains. They do, however, according to the best light at the present to be had, increase the frequency of light showers, and thus are of incalculable benefit to vegetation. In other ways the beneficent effect of trees on climate, crops and fruits is sufficiently well established. Dr. J. M. Anders gives in the American Naturalist a good summing up of the latest re search on this subject. Not the least of the benefits he montions is the good service belts of woodland do in protecting vegetation from storms and icy winds. It is very common now for enlightened farmers in the West and Northwest to plant dense rows of trees and hedges of evergreen along the northern line of their orchards and grounds. Dr. Anders says:

"The experiment has been tried extensively in France of planting trees in belts one hundred meters apart, and with marked benefit to the climate, and served many times that fruit grown in the city surpasses in quality and size forebode that grown in the country, and this is weather. ascribable to the more effectual shelter

in the former place." Forests influence the atmosphere more powerfully by their effect on its general humidity than in any other way. An evaporation of moisture from both earth and trees takes place constantly. The evaporation is greater from open soil than from woodland, but the difference is far more than made up by what is called "transpiration" of leaves of the trees. This corresponds in a degree to the insensible perspiration of animals. Some conclusive experiments were made with growing pot plants, going to show that leaves do not absorb mois-

The quantity of insensible vapor that is given off through leaves amount to one and a quarter ounce to the square foot of leaf surface. The world-old metaphor of counting the leaves of the trees has a new significance in the light of science. Pains taking experiment has enabled those studying the matter to make an approximate estimate of the comparative amounts of vapor given off by earth surface and leaf surface. They have calculated that a square foot of soil sets free about six times as much moisture as a square foot of leaf. The leaf surface is, however, many times greater than the soil surface—twelve times greater, the scientists put it-so that twice as much evaporation takes place from forest as from open land. When the wood of the country is cut away, therefore other things being equal, two-thirds of the moisture giving material of the atmosphere is gone with on lands bare of trees. The Naturalist writer says:

"From the data obtained it would seem safe to infer that when the percentage of woodland is fair (25 to 30 per cent.) at least twelve inches of water is transpired in the course of a season in mild or temperate climates; or, in other words, twelve inches of the total annual terrestrial evaporation. All this vast amount of water is transpired in about six months, or during the vegetative period. Under these circumstances an equivalent of nearly half the rain-

Another noteworthy fact too is that even during long continued droughts, when brooks and pends have dried up, this life-bringing exhalation from the trees continues constant. Our writer continues :

FACTS FOR THE CURIOUS.

Charlemagne's crown, preserved in the imperial treasury at Vienna, is composed of eight plats of gold, four large and four small, connected by hinges.

The demand for matches in Great Britain is, on the average, eight daily for each individual. For Europe and North America the entire average is six for each individual.

An English physician says that seventy diseases arise directly from alcohol, and that in Great Britain 120,000 deaths are caused annually either directly or indirectly by drink-

If the earth should be suddenly stop ped in her orbit and allowed to fall unobstructed toward the sun, under the accelerating influence of his attraction, she would reach the centre in about four months.

It has been estimated that there are about 6,000 species of birds, of which five-sixth are known. Cones list of North American birds now embraces 888 species, 120 new species having been added during the last eight years.

The Berlin police department is testing a secret method of disinfection which, it is claimed, destroys the germs in sick rooms within fifteen minutes. The experiments are made as privately as possible, but when they are finished the department will make the results public.

The widest gauge railroad in existence is probably the one in operation in Washington territory, running back from the Shagit river. It is an eightfoot gauge with wooden rails eight by eight inches. The cars carry twelve wheels of nine-inch face with double

The costliest coffins in the United States are cheap affairs when compared with some to be found abroad. In the cathedral at Milan the body of Cardinal Barromeo is enclosed in a crystal casket, magnificent with gold and silver trimmings, and set with precious stones at a cost of \$800,000.

A subterranean forest was recently uncovered at a depth of ten feet below the surface on the estate of Lord Nor manton, near Peterborough, England. Some of the trees are of great size, and so well preserved that the different varieties-such as oak and elm-may be readily distinguished.

Mr. R. McLachlan gives it as his opinion that many of the wood-eating insects do not attack healthy trees, but only those which have commenced to decay from the operation of other causes. These insects are not responsible for the destruction of the trees, but simply for hastening the process after it has been

To Foretell the Weather.

If the sun sets in crimson clouds and rises brilliant, or if the stars are numerous and bright, we know in a general way that we may reckon on a duration of fine weather.

Dews and white morning fogs are

symptoms of clear days.

A dark and vapory sun, and a sicklylooking moon with blunt Lorns, and a circle around her, or pallid, big and non-scintillating stars, are all signs of approaching rains. If the sun comes up pale and then

turns red, or if the moon is large and ruddy, with sharp, black horns, we may count on wind. The chickweed is called "the poor

The aurora borealis, when very bright forebodes stormy, moist and unsettled

A haze around the sun indicates rain; it is caused by fine rain or mist in the

upper regions of the atmosphere. A halo around the sun hasoften been followed by heavy rains.

A halo around the moon is also an indication of rain. The larger he halo the nearer the wet spell.

Lack of dew is another rain sign. Sharp, white frosts in autumn and winter precede damp weather, and three successive white frosts are an infallible sign of rain.

Previous to rain the flies bite sharper and stick to us closer, and bees remain in the bive.

But few of the many signs that we have briefly instanced only apply to the immediate future, and have nothing to do with the far seeing prophets whose prognostications, also largely based on natural causes, peer into future months -nay, years in advance.

Gained Forty Pounds in Ten Days.

A well-authenticated case was reported at the Academy of Medicine in Richmond, of a man in good health who visited one of our summer resorts lately and fattened four pounds a day for ten days. His weight, in round numbers, on leaving Richmond was 160, and on returning ten days weighed (in the scales) 200 pounds. This was regarded by the doctors present as a most remarkable result. In cases of convalescence from protracted disease patients fatten very rapidly, but one pound a day under these circumstances is regarded as most gratifyins. It is thought, and was stated on the occasion referred to, that to fatten four pounds daily a man would have to make six or eight pints of blood daily. This would be "heavy feeding," and from information got from the subject of this notice the amount consumed was enormous. He took a bath morning and night.

ing the air in summer gives us cool and delightful breeses; another means by which forests affect extremes of temperature.

The facts so far ascertained with certainty, are a sufficient comment on the ruinous folly that lays the ax of destruction at the root of our beautiful trees. They also point to the need of immediate forest planting in loca'ities where a sufficient amount of woodland does not exist,—[Cincinnati Commercial.

The Reno (Nev.) Gazette says a man caught a six pound trout at Pyramid rice, candy, etc., in front of them. On presenting the priest with some money he opened the doors of the cabinet and left me to worship in peace, which I the draughts; hence forests by moisten-that the draughts; hence forests by moisten-that

Thay call them war clouds occause they are brought about by the reigning powers.

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