

is we would put our chair on the left shoulder of the cattle, or on the left hip of the horses sold; then the party buying would put his brand above ours, which would go to show that we had sold these animals and that they were not stolen. Cattle sent out of the country to the markets abroad are not vented.

Several times I have made mention of the "round up," which is a very important part of ranch life. The ranchers, within a radius of say forty or fifty miles, form themselves into an association, a fee of \$25.00 is charged each member every year, and the object of the concern is for mutual protection. In the event of cattle thieves "monkeying" with a man's brand, or stealing cattle, if the party troubled in this way is a member of the association they immediately take the matter up, and the thief instead of antagonizing one man against him has the whole country after him. The executive of the association determines the time of starting the "round up" and notifies the different members who have cattle out to send their man to a certain place on a certain day with his "string" of horses. Each man going on the "round up" has seven horses with him, as the heavy riding necessitates frequent changes of horses. The "round up outfit" operate in a certain territory bounded by certain rivers or the mountains, and are generally away six weeks or two months; the object is to gather the animals of the different ranches represented on the "round up;" or, if a party hasn't many cattle—not sufficient to send a man or two out, and providing he belongs to the association—his cattle are gathered and he pays so much per head. It often happens that cattle belonging to ranchers in one district wander away over a hundred miles into the territory of other "round up outfits." These are gathered by the other concerns, and an exchange takes place; so that when the "round up" comes to the shipping place, if it is the fall "beef round up" they generally have at least a good