

the latter we will "hold" under fence, and the former will be turned loose next spring to "rustle" for themselves, and we will not see them again until they are four years old when they will be fit for the market, and they will be brought in on the fall "round up" of that year. In the meantime if the farming element get a foot-hold in the country we will be obliged to take all our steers in off the range; but we feel now that we will be able to handle a herd of at least five thousand head—twice our present capacity—in our own land; so that, as far as we are concerned, it makes very little difference whether the bald-headed prairie is cut up into farms or continues as it is.

In order to know who owns particular cattle, every animal is branded, and as every man's brand is registered, and the part of the body of the animal on which it is to appear, it is a very easy matter to find your own cattle, or by consulting the brand book tell the party to whom a certain brand belongs; and the "round up" people have no trouble in bringing in the right steers. Our brand is a chair, thus:  and the registered brand book says that this



SMALL BUNCH OF  BRAND STEERS ON PRAIRIE, 10 MILES FROM ANY HABITATION

particular brand is to be put on the left hip for cattle, and the left shoulder for horses. Should we sell any cattle to a person in the country it is necessary to "vent" them, that