

CHEROKEE LAND TITLE.

A CURIOUS ILLUSTRATION OF THE SOCIALISTIC IDEA.

The Land Held as Common Property, but the Improvements Are the Property of the Individual—Certain Restrictions Laid—Farmers and Farm.

To the student of land problems the Cherokee land title is a most interesting feature of their life, and the inferences to be drawn from its workings are many and valuable. The Cherokee is usually known as a communist, and in some sense of the word this is true; but the peculiar situation is such that what he lacks in legal communism he makes up through other circumstances. In so far as the ideal of the communist will be realized when over his own land, and find his way as a member of the community supplied by the central government—a socialistic system, the Cherokee presents today an illustration of national land holding.

On the 1st day of August, 1888, the Cherokee tribe, assembled in camp at Oquahbee, I. T., began their proceedings with this somewhat grandiloquent claim:

"Whereas, The title of the Cherokee people to their lands is the most ancient and absolute known to man, its date is beyond the recall of human record, its validity confirmed and illustrated by possession and enjoyment precedent to all pretense and claim by any other portion of the human race."

NATIONALIZATION OF LAND.

On this basis the remarkable men assembled in this council proceeded to form the wonderful constitution under which the tribe has lived and prospered so signally, and from which were copied in a measure the constitutions of the other nations. Probably influenced by the Indian idea of property in land—the idea of socialism—they held that the land belonged to the Cherokee tribe, and not to the individuals thereof. Land, says the Indian, like his communistic brother, is as air and water, the property of all; it cannot be given away to the few. Pursuing this theory, the Cherokee constitution secured the nationalization of land in the Cherokee state in these words:

"The land of the Cherokee nation shall remain the common property, but the improvements made thereon and in the possession of the citizens of the nation are the exclusive and indefeasible property of the citizens respectively; he made and may be rightfully in possession thereof."

These improvements therefore descend to the heirs of the citizen, or they may be sold by him, but the land, occupy it as long as he will, can never be his. He may occupy as much land as he can cultivate, provided he does not come within one-quarter of a mile of his neighbor. This prohibition does not, of course, refer to the towns. He must establish a claim to this land by proving it to be unoccupied, and at the proper distance from his neighbor, and when he shall have fenced it, or put upon it \$50 worth of improvements, he has the right to occupy as long as he chooses; but if he fails to occupy it for two years, it reverts to the nation again. There is absolutely no limit to the amount he may thus use if he can cultivate it; but if he wishes to possess himself of two different farms, they must be the required quarter of a mile apart.

CERTAIN RESTRICTIONS LAID.

To be sure that speculation does not interfere with the country, the right of all to her land, the Cherokee nation through her legislature has laid certain restrictions upon her people. The valuable black walnut and pecan timber belongs to the nation; the individual may neither cut it nor sell it. The possible mines of her rocky hills may not be opened for an old statute makes the discovery of a mine punishable with death. The remembrance of their cruel ejection from their rich mineral lands in Georgia is thus curiously embodied in the law. And while there is no limit to the amount which a citizen may cultivate, he can take up for pasture the absorption of the land by great grazing farms. Thus the Cherokee has his land held for him forever by his state. He may sell his improvements, and he and his family may practically reside in the same place permanently, since the right of occupancy may be devised. This right may also be sold. But the individualizing of the land that would seem to be thus brought about is neutralized by the vast tracts of rich unoccupied territory waiting the industrious hand.

How thoroughly this plan has worked, as its sanguine modern advocates would have us believe it always will work, is shown by the exact correspondence between the number of male inhabitants and the number of dwellings, 5,979 each, and the nearly similar number of farms and farmers—3,500 farmers on 4,000 farms. Moreover the right of a woman to the land is the same as that of a man, and her husband, although not a Cherokee nor even an Indian, may acquire her rights by marriage, and be adopted into the tribe. This is the only dowry; for alien property and "Cherokee rights," joined to the property faces gained from a mixed Indian and white ancestry, have proved a strong attraction to many a wanderer, and a heritage of joy and sorrow, as it might be to many an Indian woman.—Anna Laurens Lawes in Harper's Magazine.

To Put Out Chimney Fires.

Zinc, placed upon the fire in stove or grate, is said to have proved itself an effective extinguisher of chimney fires. To a member of the Boston fire department is reported to be due the credit of successfully introducing this simple scheme. When a fire starts inside chimney, from whatever cause, a piece of zinc, about four inches square, is merely put into the stove or grate connecting with the chimney. The zinc fuses and liberates acridulous fumes, which, passing up the flue, are said to almost instantly put out whatever fire there may be there. It certainly sounds simple enough.—Fire and Water.

A Reasonable Explanation.

How is it you have so many young men on you? asked a jealous girl.
"Because," was the reply, "father has the gout in one foot and the rheumatism in the other; besides we don't keep a dog.—Judge.

The first slave labor within the present limits of the United States that was employed at the founding of St. Augustine, in 1565.

An Ugly Elephant.

"Of all the ugly elephants I have known," said the trainer, "Albert was the worst. You could gain some idea of his disposition by looking into his eyes. He used to go out into the ring to carry me in on his trunk, after the act was over. That was all it was possible to train him to do. One night at Nashua, N. H., as one of the keepers was getting Albert ready for the ring, the elephant suddenly turned on him and felled him to the earth with a blow from his trunk. An elephant in attacking a man curls up his trunk and then throws it out, like one striking straight from his shoulder. When Albert had knocked the keeper down, he coiled his trunk about him, raised him up in the air and then thrashed the earth with him, breaking every bone in his body.

"When it was learned that Albert had killed the keeper, the ring master requested members of the local militia company who were in the audience at the time to step forward. A squad of them were requested to appear in the morning and shoot Albert. I could always control him; indeed, he was perfectly docile to me when I captured him after he had killed the keeper and chained him up. I led him out on the morning of the execution and gave him some hay. I never saw him so docile. As he ate his breakfast I chalked a circle just back of his fore leg in the region of the heart. Then twenty-seven militiamen stood off a little distance and at the word of command fired into that circle. Five bullets pierced the elephant's heart, and he dropped dead, making the ground tremble as he fell. Success in handling elephants depends on letting them know that you are boss, and never for a moment relaxing your stern discipline."—New York Evening Sun.

Brass Signs Expensive.

It was the custom about five years ago to have brass signs on doors, and every merchant invested in bright sheet metal with name and business painted in indented letters. You don't see so many of them now, and most with a dirty oxidized covering. Merchants know what these changes in the styles are, but of all I am acquainted with this has been the most expensive. It is not like to remain there without further concern until it goes to pieces. It has been a cost of \$25, and looked very attractive the first week or so. Then the variations of climate proved so great that I had to have it brushed very frequently in order to keep it in good condition. There was a man here who used to make a business of polishing these signs, and for \$2 a month he used to come around and brush the sign. This made the sign cost me over \$100 before the style changed and merchants began to stick porcelain letters on their windows. Styles in signs seem to change every three or four years. You can observe that by making a survey of the business houses, some of which have signs five, ten and fifteen years old.—Merchant in Globe Democrat.

Paper From Tobacco Stems.

"What do you think that is?" inquired a wholesale stationer of the writer, at the same time handing the latter a sheet of note paper of excellent quality and the finest finish.

"Paper," answered the reporter. "Can't you give me something harder?"
"Oh, yes, of course it's paper, but what's it made from?"
"Linen rags."

"Just what I thought you'd say, but you see you don't know it all. No sir; this paper which appears to be, and is equal to paper manufactured from linen rags, was in its natural state nothing but the stems and waste of the tobacco plant. A use has thus been discovered for thousands of tons of material, that has heretofore been practically worthless. Another new paper making material is bamboo, which, after being crushed to a pulp, can be made into an excellent quality of paper. I shouldn't be very much surprised," added the stationer, ruminatively, "to hear that some genius had succeeded in manufacturing paper from pulverized cobble stones. It's a great country, and you can't most always tell what's going to happen."—Mail and Express.

Big African Enterprises.

Considerable amounts of American capital are being invested in some big African enterprises. The railroad from Delagoa bay, the best harbor on the east coast of Africa, which is now completed for a distance of fifty-four miles inland, was built by an American syndicate under a concession from the Portuguese government. It will connect with the line to be built from Pretoria, the capital of the Transvaal. The largest trading company on the Upper Congo and the only one that has yet sent two steamers to the upper river, is the Sanford company, which was organized a few months ago and is managed by Americans. Considerable Belgian capital, however, is invested in the company. American engineers surveyed and are now building the railroad from Loanda to Ambaca, which is backed by the Portuguese government. Some American money also is finding its way into quartz crushing machinery for the new gold fields of South Africa.—Chicago News.

Asking Too Much.

She (not at all handsome)—Oh, Tom, now you've got your outfit down here, won't you take my picture?

He (amateur photographer)—Good gracious, Sally, you can't expect a fellow to take any risks with a hundred and fifty dollar lens.—Racket.

Not on Ice.

Husband—Are there any oysters in the house?

Wife—Only two, and you can't have them.

Husband—Why?

Wife—Johnnie's been in a street fight, and they are on his eyes.—Epoch.

Furnished Rooms.

Smith—Look here, when I engaged this room you told me it was furnished, but I find nothing but a bed in it. How is that?
Landlord—That's all right. I furnish the room and you furnish the furniture.—Lawyer in American.

PRITCHARD SIZED UP.

THE VANQUISHER OF JEM SMITH A FAVORITE.

His Lances With Fitzsimmons, Hall or McAuliffe—The Latter May Fight Him After the Affair With Gibbons.

There's now a great deal of talk at present among men who interest themselves in the doings of boxers, about Sullivan and Slavin. The relative merits of "Long Jim" Hall and "Long Bob" Fitzsimmons are also being discussed. The Dixon's latest victory is still talked about. McAuliffe and Gibbons come in for their share of the argument, but about a pugilist whose name is often mentioned nowadays Americans know comparatively little. This man is Pritchard, the great middleweight champion of England, and on the other side of the herring pond he is regarded as the coming middleweight champion of the world. Pritchard is anxious to try conclusions with Fitzsimmons or Hall. He would make an admirable showing with either of these boxers. Should he get on a match with either the probabilities are that he would be at least an even money chance against Fitzsimmons. Pritchard would be a second choice, for American sportsmen believed Jack Burke invincible, and it is only natural that they should have great faith in a conqueror. No matter what the odds may be against him when he meets the New Zealander, for it appears to be a sure thing that they



will come together sooner or later, Pritchard will give his backers a run for their money.

When he reached his fifteenth year Pritchard became a member of a company of training boxers. In England dozens of such troops may be seen at every court fair. Prizes of from \$1 to \$5, according to the condition of the proprietor or exchequer, are offered to outsiders who can "stay" four rounds with any of the company. The man who wishes to try for this money is pitted against one of the boxers of about his own weight, and an admission of from five to twenty-five cents is charged to the show. Pritchard was a great success. He was engaged at a salary which would amount to about \$7,500 in American money, and he thought himself well paid. His duties consisted of meeting five, ten, and sometimes as many as twenty men a day. If any of them succeeded in "staying" with him the stipulated number of rounds, one-quarter of the sum paid to the successful contestant was deducted from Ted's weekly stipendary payment. It soon began to dawn upon him that he could make more money in boxing competitions with much less effort, and he entered tournaments at Lambeth, both of which he won.

Subsequently he gave away too much weight to a local boxer named "Pudney" Sullivan and was beaten. A heavy-weight named Bill Whitley also proved too much for Pritchard. After these experiences he decided to pick out men of his own weight, but as he won little after battle with middle-weight he grew bolder and tackled big men with unvarying success. After making a second tour with a "penny" show, as these traveling companies are called, Pritchard went to London, where he won several competitions, and was soon matched against Jim Hayes for \$50 a side. This fight took place in February, 1887. Seeing the favorite badly beaten, Hayes' friends broke into the ring and stopped the proceedings. Pritchard, however, was given the stakes. Three months later Pritchard was matched against Ober Burns for a like amount. This contest lasted two rounds, and Burns was not "in it." By this time the London sports began to talk about the Lambeth boxer and Alf Mitchell, then regarded as the cleverest middleweight in England, and sought a match with the newcomer.

Pritchard readily found backing for \$1,000, but it was several months before the affair was arranged. Pritchard was attacked with pneumonia, and it was not until December of last year that he faced Mitchell in the ring. An interesting battle ensued and Pritchard won in four rounds. Jack Burke, the "Irish lad," who was considered a first-class man in his class, saw Mitchell vanquished and lost no time in challenging the winner. They signed articles to box for \$2,500 a side and the middleweight championship of England. They met last March. Burke was the favorite. The fact that he had made such a good showing with both John L. Sullivan and Frank Slavin told in the betting. Burke was so far outclassed by Pritchard, however, that many of his ad-



Jack McAuliffe.

mirers believed that he had sold the fight. There was no real grounds for this suspicion. Pritchard proved himself to be an infinitely better boxer and a greater general. Burke was badly beaten in three rounds.

After this victory Pritchard announced his willingness to box any middleweight in the world, with preference for Fitzsimmons and Hall. As negotiations were then pending between the Antipodeans, neither of them paid any attention to the Briton's duty. Meanwhile Mr. Abington, an English sport, whose name is known nearly the world over, set about to match Pritchard against Jem Smith, who in spite of his defeats by Jackson and Slavin, was the recognized heavyweight champion of England. Abington never liked Pritchard and he vowed that he would have him whipped. It was Abington who furnished Alf Mitchell's stake money. Pritchard was ready to make a dilly-dallying on the latter's part articles of agreement were finally signed.

The result of the contest was a surprise to the pugilistic world. Pritchard, although fifteen pounds the lighter, mowed his opponent down in three rounds. In the early part of the fight Smith flogged him three times. He quickly recovered and the tables were soon turned. So Abington lost another \$2,500. As he is worth several millions, however, the loss will not worry him to an alarming extent. Abington, it is said is ready to back Fitzsimmons against Pritchard for \$5,000. The latter would have an advantage of two inches in height, as Pritchard is 5 feet 9 inches tall.

Jack McAuliffe was interviewed at his place of training the other day. He said if he won the fight with Gibbons he would challenge Pritchard.

T. H. J.

AUSTRALIAN WRESTLER.

Jack Perryman Who Presents an Almost Unbroken Record.

Jack Perryman, the heavyweight champion wrestler of Australia, is 23 years of age. He made his first appearance as a wrestler in a coast test for a medal and the amateur championship of the colonies, at Victor's Hall, Melbourne, Nov. 7, 1887, when he won. His next performance was at Prof. Miller's benefit, when he wrestled Chasen and won. In 1888 he threw out a challenge to any 128 pound amateur, and was accommodated by Theodore Lawrence of Germany. They met on Aug. 10, at the Temperance Hall, Hotham, when Perryman won very easily. In 1889 he won first prize at the Caledonian sports against A. Berryman, C. Erton, A. Christol, M. Evans, M. O'Brien, J. Stagpool. Subsequently he beat J. Chasen for \$50 a side at Birch's hotel; then met M. Evans in a five style match, winning the first three falls—Greco-Roman, Cornish, and catch-as-catch-can. On April 25, 1890,



he defeated Andre Christol at the Melbourne Athletic Club, the best of three falls, Greco-Roman, for \$25 and a purse given by the club. He also defeated Harry Pierce for \$100 and a purse given by the same club, and subsequently defeated J. B. Benjamin for \$50 and a purse, in the Commotion Gymnasium, Fitzroy.

In Turkey when a man is caught in a lie an official is sent around to paint the front of his house black.

The deadly car stove has been advised to "go west and snow up with the country."

Trimming the Nose.
Nose trimming is now performed without leaving scar or deformity. The removal of a little surplus tissue from the end of a long nose effects a wonderful change in facial expression.—Arkansas Traveler.

Killed the Fish.

The harbor of Charleston, S. C., used to abound with blackfish, but the earthquake seems to have scared them away, for since the great shake-up hardly one has been caught.

The Board of Supervisors of San Francisco have purchased 10,000 feet of the "Eureka" Cotton Rubber Lined Fire Hose. Last month they also purchased 5,000 feet, and they will probably make another purchase of 5,000 feet in a short time. This hose is of the same construction and manufacture as the well-known "Paragon" Cotton Fire Hose, but is heavier and calculated for fire service in the business and manufacturing districts of large cities. V. T. Y. Schenck of San Francisco is the agent for the Pacific Coast.

Daddy—If you are a good boy, I'll take you to the circus. Sonny—Suppose I ain't a good boy?
Daddy—Then you'll have a circus with me.

GEORGE AUGUSTUS SALA.

George Augustus Sala, the well-known English writer, on his Australian trip wrote as follows to *The London Daily Telegraph*:

"I especially have a pleasant remembrance of the ship's doctor—a very experienced maritime medico indeed, who tended me most kindly during a horrible spell of bronchitis and spasmodic asthma, provoked by the sea fog which had swooped down on us just after we left San Francisco. But the doctor's prescriptions and the increasing warmth of the temperature as we neared the tropics, and, in particular, a couple of ALLCOCK'S PAIN-EXPELLERS, clapped on—one on the chest and another between the shoulder blades—soon set me right."

"In getting through a failure successfully," says old Mr. Gamrox, "a good deal depends on a man's lie-abilities."

COUGHS.—"Brown's Bronchial Troches" are not new and untried; but, having been tested by long and constant use, they have attained well-merited rank among the few staple cough remedies. 25 cents a box.

Discretion is Valor.—Tommy—'at? Are you afraid of a little mouse? Jennie—No, I jumped on a chair so that I wouldn't be afraid.



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