



Kansas State University Libraries
New Prairie Press

Symphony in the Flint Hills Field Journal

2017 - Chisholm Trail (Larry Patton, editor)

The Long Horn Steer

Follow this and additional works at: <https://newprairiepress.org/sfh>

Recommended Citation

(2017). "The Long Horn Steer," *Symphony in the Flint Hills Field Journal*. <https://newprairiepress.org/sfh/2017/legacy/1>

To order hard copies of the Field Journals, go to shop.symphonyintheflinthills.org.

The Field Journals are made possible in part with funding from the Fred C. and Mary R. Koch Foundation.

This Event is brought to you for free and open access by the Conferences at New Prairie Press. It has been accepted for inclusion in Symphony in the Flint Hills Field Journal by an authorized administrator of New Prairie Press. For more information, please contact cads@k-state.edu.



TWO STEPS (66) (INSTALLATION DETAIL)
Amanda Maciuba

THE LONG HORN STEER

While Not Extinct He is Fast Giving Way to the Short Horn, and His Days are Numbered.

The Brownsville Herald
20 January 1906

When the man with the hoe invaded the prairie; when the railroad absorbed the business of the trail; when the barbed wire fence put the cow-boy out of business; when the rope and the Winchester gave way to courts and juries as ministers of justice; when the smoke from the schoolhouse curled through the air and 'the sound of the church-going bell' was heard, the long-

horned steer fell into disfavor and had to give way to more domesticated breeds.

He is not extinct, by any means, and is not likely to be for some time to come, but he is slowly passing. Shorthorn cattle are crowding in, and the king of the prairie is less profitable as an animal of commerce.

The long-horned steer of Texas was a picturesque animal when in his glory.

When in good condition he stepped proudly and majestically over the shimmering greenery of the broad sweeps of undulating land, a monarch in his own right, and fully conscious of his own right, and fully conscious of his own preeminence. When put to it he could run like an antelope,

and the cow-boys must need spur and quirt their broncos when they sought to "head" him. No pedestrian was safe in his presence, and his spreading horns were terrorizing to look upon. Sometimes the Texas long-horn-several thousand of him herded together and rounded up in a more or less compact mass—would begin to show signs of uneasiness and restlessness. A few of them would move about and try to leave the herd, and when driven back by a cow-boy stationed outside the ring, would move around the circle seeking an unguarded exit. Finding none, the movement would be continued and the

procession added to until the entire herd was in motion, moving in a circle. Then would a sudden panic seize the animals and they would rush around madly in a stampede, bellowing, battering their horns together, crushing and crowding each other and even killing the fallen, while a rumbling noise would be created like the noise of an army with banners. If the herd escaped from the cow-boys, the long-horn steer took the lead and the race was for miles until exhaustion, when a new rounding was begun. The short-horn is led about at will, petted and patted, fondled and caressed.
—Memphis News-Scimitar.