

shawnee trail

1 "Roundup"

"A cutting horse comes it proud over all other range horses. He has
"cow sense" as well as horse sense, keeps calm, never excites the cattle."
"A cow outfit is no better than its horses."
"He went salter' off—his hind legs kicking in the air like a migrant' bullfinch."
"After three jumps he hit the ground and laid still."
"Rode" the rough string an' I like austin' a kustin' bee."
"It's the fly-off cows that wear the biggest horns."
"The plates last longer 'cause they're easy to straighten out after a bouterous
meal."

2 "Trail Drive"

"A man don't get thirsty till he can't get water."
"I went up the trail twice, and drove the drag both times, did all the
work, got all the 'cussin', but had the good luck never to get fired."
"The cook ate alone...worked alone, slept alone. A dry bed and decent
chick was what men valued...not style."
"Cussin' a range cook is as risky as brandin' a mule's tail."
"He serve 'alps' dirty on both sides."
"...the coffee was made out of water thick enough to plow."

3 "Stampede"

"It was so quiet you could hear daylight coming...silence as brittle as glass."
"...another steer got up, stood still, expectant; then others and others arose
till the whole herd was on its feet."
"...the cowboy's songs come louder now, unremitting, pleading."
"...the night grew blacker, the lightning brighter, the air heavier...the steers
began to move at a walk...then faster."
"...out of the blackness came a great flash of zigzag lightning...a mighty clap,
a roar, a crack of thunder shook heaven and earth."
"In answer...the thunder of ten thousand pounding hooves that popped and
clacked...horn clacked against horn."
"The stampede started with the swiftness of the lightning's leap."

These walkways leading up to the circle of walls and additional gates:

"If you have a hill to climb, water won't make it smaller."
Over 150,000 cattle per year were driven up the Texas trail for 25 years.
5,000,000 cattle and 1,000,000 horses were driven north and sold at \$10 a
head from 1867 to 1892.
"The cow wants your stock in the oven, but that don't make 'em biscuits."
"He had a mule like a rusty gate-lunge and more crast than an armadillo."
"Avoid any food that would get a buzzard."
"Never open a horse when he's nervous."
"Texas climate is miserable, all right, but it is good for the character."
"It was hot enough to wither a fence post, and it panned him down like a
yellow candle. Even the shade of a hat-worn fence didn't help none."

Through the wall and the low-wall break:

"The outside is war darker than the dead end of a creeked tunnel a mile deep
under a mountain. Then the prairie was a sea of blue and yellow light
dancing to all eyes."
"No matter. Hang with the cattle. Trust your horse."
"When the lightning was 't light, run by air. When the lightning blinds and the
thunder drowns all other sound, keep on riding till the leader."

"Grassy Plateau Area"

Trail Drive Memorial Plaque

A Tribute:

To the great men of courage who broke the trail, who led a broken Texas and started her on a
brighter path into the future:

Charles Goodnight	Joe Fryer	John Chisum	Oren Lovoy
Col. Jack Potter	John B. Shugler	Al Shickler	Alonso Mitchell
G. W. Saunders	Shugley Pierce	John R. Stocker	Frankie M. Dullman
J. M. Bennett	Luther A. Lyndon	R. B. Pumphrey	W. J. Hester
George W. West	J. H. Prussell	W. H. Jennings	T. A. Coleman
J. D. Houston	D. H. & John Seyler	W. B. Stocker	F. B. Butler
R. B. Houston	J. B. Irving	John Holland	J. H. Parsons
Clay Marshall	T. D. Woods	George W. Littlefield	M. A. Wilburn
Charles Schreiner	J. M. Disher	C. C. Hoffbrand	Marlin McKeown
John Adair	Col. Albert Boyce	Dick Head	Charles Coffey

"Working was from top to bottom, your boots plenty full of water and your toes spreading to it, and
why so boys like to be cowboys and could stand it, I can't say. I reckon it were the excitement."

The Cowboy at Rest:

When my old feet were range and rest,
I stayed the last drive,
But please me in some stretch of west
That's sunny, lone and wide.
Let cattle rub my shoulders down,
And coyotes roars their awe,
Let horses paw and stamp the ground,
But don't you ever see me."

