

**Last Letter of N. P. Willis.**  
 The following characteristic and touching letter is published in the last number of the *Home Journal*:  
 SICK ROOM, IDLEWILD, Dec. 4, 1866.  
 Dear Phillips: The promptness and efficiency and devotion with which you sprang to my side, on the doctor's announcing me a dying man, at my city lodgings, were memorable, indeed! You got me home on the beautiful Sunday, as few except a "ministering angel," could have done the kindness. I am not suffering at present; but my paralysis has gradually crept from my legs upward to my lungs, and I am unable to sit erect without fainting. I am still very much as usual in the brain.  
 With a fearful storm raging in the Highlands about me, I am thinking how you are "making up" without me at the office, and wishing I were a "wee" bit nearer to you.  
 My friendship with you, which I cherish so pleasantly, stands a chance to be the last fully intellectual act of my life; yet it is by no means a novelty. When I found dear old Morris loving you, and making you his private secretary and literary assistant, ten years ago, I adopted you as a creature to be loved, and I have found you to be a man singularly modest and curiously unappreciative of many good qualities in yourself. I think for an editor, your capacities are excellent. There is no better appreciator of a good thing, moral and intellectual, sarcastic or witty; but, as a business friend and partner, you are invaluable.  
 I am gratified to have lived long enough to get you fairly into harness, as a well developed partner and co-worker. I could have wished for more—but, alas! for this fragmentary life, it is hard to be taken soon enough; it is hard to be left long enough.  
 I am writing this, half-dead and half-alive, by the hand of my attentive and sweet wife, and it is not to be published while I live. But you will be at liberty to refer to it and print it, *post mortem*.  
 God bless you, my dear friend.  
 Yours, faithfully, thus far,  
 N. P. WILLIS.

**UNPROFITABLE BOARDERS.**—L. H. Barber, proprietor of the City Hotel, Idaho city, publishes in the papers of that place, the following notice to his customers:  
 "All of you dead heads who can always have plenty of money to run with the hurdy-gurdys and to gamble with, but cannot think to save money enough to pay your board, will take notice that in every instance, hereafter, where they play that game for board at the City Hotel, I will place their names on my bulletin board, in front of the Hotel, which I had made for that express purpose. I have become heartily tired of the above described class of people. Their style is to commence boarding—the first week they pay promptly—the next week or two they never pay. I have thousands of dollars in bills of this kind, and do not wish any more."

**AN ACTIVE VOLCANO IN THE MOON.**—A volcano in the moon is said to be in an active state. The crater called Linnæ, on the Mare Serenitatis, was noticed by an astronomer at Athens, a M. Schmidt, during the months of October and November to be obscured. English photographs taken at the same time, show the crater very faintly marked. The same darkness was observed on this spot by the eminent astronomer Schroeter in November, 1788. The *London Spectator* says: "The impression is that the eruption is going on, but if so, must not the moon have an atmosphere? Could combustion take place without oxygen? Would the smoke—the carbonic acid gas—rise without some heavier gas, like atmospheric air, to rise in?"

**TOO MUCH FOR HER.**—A good story is related of a prudish old maid who applied at a certain fashionable photograph gallery in this city to have her picture taken. As old maids are generally of a very inquisitive nature, always poking around where they have no business, she accidentally looked into the machine and to her horror discovered that objects are reflected inverted, or, as she expressed it, "upside down." She peremptorily refused to sit any more, and adjusting her bonnet ribbons, remarked that "that game was played out. She wasn't going to be stuck up in that manner, if she never had a picture," and with a swing of the "tilter" which would have done credit to a New York Broadway fashionable, she sailed from the room with an air of insulted dignity.—*Rock Island Argus.*

**WRITING IN CYPHERS AND IN SHORT HAND.**—These abbreviated modes of writing are not of modern invention. The ancients had ingenious cyphers for their secret dispatches, and sent private orders to their commanders and ambassadors, which could not be opened so as to be legible, without a peculiar contrivance of the key. Caesar's usual method was to write by agreement, the fourth letter of the alphabet for the first; for example, D for A and so on, varying the arrangement occasionally. The Romans had also short hand writers, a chosen number of whom were employed by Cicero to take down a speech of Cato. Martial and Ausonius bear testimony to the surprising skill of some of them.

**HOW MANY MORMONS ARE THERE?**—The Mormon leaders are inclined to exaggerate their numbers, and set down the population of Salt Lake city at 25,000; but the Gentiles, pointing to the census of 1860, which gave but 40,295 in all Utah, say there cannot be over 75,000 now in the entire Territory. A gentleman who has investigated the matter somewhat fully this season, believes the true population is about 100,000 souls for the Territory, and 15,000 or 16,000 for the city. Yet, because an ordinary sized house, which at the East would scarcely be occupied by eight or ten people, is here found to comprise within its four walls from two to twenty wives, each surrounded by a large, interesting and constantly increasing family, it is a matter of no small difficulty to estimate the people by their dwellings. Children fairly swarm, stout, strongly-built, ruddy-faced, it must be confessed that, so far as physical deterioration is concerned, polygamy cannot yet be justly charged with degenerating the race.

**INFORMATION** is wanted of John Richards, who left Salt Lake for Denver, on the 18th of last December, since which time nothing has been heard of him. Address Catharine Richards, Medina, Ohio.

**BUSINESS CARDS.**  
**Wilbur F. Sanders,**  
 ATTORNEY at Law, opposite Planters' House, Idaho street, 149

**DR. O. B. WHITFORD.**  
 OFFICE on Main street, next door to barber shop, Nevada City, M. T.

**THOMAS V. RUSSELL,**  
 Attorney and Counselor at Law, Virginia City, Montana, 109-17

**L. W. FRARY,**  
 SURGICAL AND MECHANICAL DENTIST office removed next door to the Executive All dental operations performed in the best possible manner. Single teeth and complete sets inserted in the highest style of art. Ladies and gentlemen will find every arrangement for their convenience, 137

**J. F. COCHRAN,**  
 HOUSE AND SIGN PAINTER—Three doors below the Post Office, Wallace street, Virginia City, M. T. House and Sign Painting, Paper Hanging and Glazing done with neatness and dispatch, at low rates for cash. 147

**H. L. MATHEWS, M. D.,**  
 PHYSICIAN AND SURGEON first door below the Planter's House, Idaho street. 130

**JOHN G. VETTER,**  
 BOOT AND SHOEMAKER, No. 3 Jackson street, Virginia City, Montana. Particular attention paid to the manufacture of Gent's fine boots. Keeps constantly on hand a large stock of French calf-skins; also, kip and sole leather. All of the finest quality. 132

**New Goods.**  
 AN immense variety of Blank Books and Memo. randaums just received at the City Book Store

**James Morton,**  
 GUN-DEALER, opposite Gurney & Co.'s, Wallace Street, Virginia City. Repairing neatly done. 133

**W. W. DE LACY,**  
 COUNTY SURVEYOR—Office at the foot of Wallace street, next door to Mr. Simpson's tailorshop. He will be ready at all times to survey ranches, ditches, towns, etc., and make accurate maps of the same. Particular attention paid to the survey and mapping of quartz lodes and districts. 140

**Estray Notice.**  
 CAME to my ranch about a month ago, one very large, red muley steer. The owner can have said steer by calling and paying charges on the same. PETER DALY. 124

**White Pine Lumber Yard.**  
 Corner of Jackson & Cover St. Virginia City, M. T. A. M. HOLTER, Proprietor. ALL descriptions of white pine lumber constant ly on hand for sale. R. M. RENSHAW, Agent. 94-108

**FOR SALE,**  
 OR TRADE FOR STOCK. 100 tons of Hay, one mile below Jefferson bridge. Any one wishing to purchase or exchange stock will find it to their advantage to give me a call at the above mentioned place. JOSEPH PERRY. w126-3a

**Estray Notice.**  
 BRUNDY'S RANCH, on the Stinkingwater, Dec. 19th, 1866. Came to my Ranch on the 1st of November, one bay Pony, long mane and all, star in forehead, saddle-marks on both sides, white hind foot, and from seven to eight years old. The owner is requested to call, pay charges and take him away. (122-4) H. BRUNDY.

**Notice.**  
 THE stockholders of the Ashland Gold and Silver Mining Company are hereby notified that there will be a meeting of the stockholders at the office of the Secretary of said Company, at Virginia City, Madison county, M. T., for the purpose of disposing of a part of the Quartz property belonging to the said Company, and for other purposes, on Tuesday, April 30th, 1867. By order of the resident Trustees. WILLIAM Y. LOVELL, Secretary. Virginia City, Feb. 2, 1867. 129-41

**Estray Notice.**  
 STRAYED from my care, while I was traveling through Madison Valley, near Whitney's ranch, one Bay Mare Pony—no brands—with bridle, saddle and lariat with a brass ring in the end of the same, and a knot on the right side of her face. Any information given me through the Virginia City Post Office, will be suitably rewarded. 4121-3t W. M. CRISP.

**STORAGE.**  
 FIRE PROOF WAREHOUSES, Storage will be taken at the lowest rates. Insurance 1/2 of one per cent. per month. Apply to JOHN S. ROCKFELLO W, No. 5 Jackson Street, Virginia City M. T.

**LEA, F. MARSTON,**  
 WATCHMAKER AND JEWELER Cor. of Jackson & Wallace Sts., Virginia City, M. T. CONSTANTLY keeps on hand, and makes to order, from Native Gold, all the latest styles of Jewelry. Particular attention paid to repairing Watches. 130

**THOS. M. ISETT,** (late of Isett & Brewster, Muscatine, Iowa); W. B. FARR, (late of Scott, Kerr & Co., Salt Lake City); JOHN KERR, (of Scott, Kerr & Co., Leavenworth, Kansas).  
**ISETT, KERR & CO.**  
 BANKERS,  
 No. 4, Wall Street, New York.

**W. B. FARR,** of the above firm, being thoroughly acquainted with the business of the mining regions, will attend to the carriage of gold dust; make advances on the same; hold ore as desired. 129

**CALIFORNIA BAKERY,**  
 Deer Lodge City, M. T. BILLY WILSON, - - - Proprietor, A fine saloon is attached to the Bakery, and a Club-Room, both of which are fitted up with all the modern improvements. The purest liquors and the best brands of cigars are served out to customers. I am always glad to see my old friends, who live upon the other side of the mountains, as well as those upon this side. 132

**300 POUNDS CARROT SEEDS!**  
 (ORANGE VARIETY.) FOR sale by J. S. ROCKFELLOW, in quantities to suit purchasers. Orders from the country, accompanied by the cash, promptly attended to. PRICE—\$5 PER POUND. Virginia City, Feb. 16, 1866. 90

**RECONSTRUCTED**  
**JESSE ARMITAGE,**  
 (POPULARLY KNOWN AS JESSE BLACKSMITH)  
 IN the old stand of WELDON & SALE, foot of Wallace Street, Virginia City. Particular attention paid to machine work 123-125

**C. L. SHOUP,** MONTANA FREIGHT  
 Successor to  
**A. R. BOICE & CO.,**  
 Wholesale Grocers

**STORAGE AND COMMISSION MERCHANTS**  
 Corner Wallace & Jackson Streets,  
 Virginia City, - - - Montana,

**HAVE ON HAND**  
 500 sacks of Flour;  
 30,000 pounds of Bacon;  
 5,000 pounds of Sugar;  
 7,000 pounds of Salt;  
 15,000 pounds of Coffee;  
 20 chests of Tea;  
 5,000 pounds N.Y. State dried apples  
 1,000 " " " Peaches;  
 5,000 pounds Tobacco, best brands;  
 50 kegs Golden & Amber Syrup;  
 5,000 pounds Nails;  
 600 gall's Bourbon & Rye Whisky;  
 50 cases of Fields' Oysters;

Together with a general assortment of  
**Case Liquors**  
 AND  
**CANNED FRUITS**  
 Of every description.

**RIFLE AND BLASTING POWDER, FUSE, ETC.,**  
 WRAPPING PAPER,  
 TWINE,  
 CANDLE WICKING  
 SOAP,  
 WERKS' CANDLES,  
 MUSTARD,  
 CREAM TARTAR,  
 MATCHES,  
 CONCENTRATED LYE,  
 PICKLES,  
 YEAST POWDERS.

All of which we offer at wholesale or retail, at the lowest market rates.  
 Goods received on Storage or Commission  
 Liberal cash advances made on consignments. 150

From L. P. FISHER'S Advertising Agency, 962 Washington street, San Francisco, California.

**TOBACCO! CIGARS!**  
**WEIL & CO.,**  
 No. 226 Front Street, San Francisco,  
 SOLE IMPORTERS  
 Of the following brands of one-half pounds, superior to any in the market:  
 Peach Offering,  
 Fruit Basket,  
 Pearl Offering,  
 Golden Charm,  
 Imperial,  
 Camellia,  
 Besides—  
 Light Pressed Natural Leaf

Of every description. Also, by every steamer, invoices of  
**GENUINE HAVANA CIGARS**  
 IN BOND OR DUTY PAID  
**WEIL & CO.,**  
 29-ly 226 Front Street, San Francisco, Cal.

**PLANTER'S HOUSE,**  
 VIRGINIA CITY, M. T.,  
**J. B. CHAPIN, - - - Proprietor.**  
 THIS well-known Hotel has been thoroughly repaired and renovated in all its departments. A FIRST-CLASS TABLE will be maintained, regardless of expense, and will be furnished with the choicest viands the market affords. The comfort and convenience of boarders and visitors will be carefully attended to. Careful and trustworthy waiters in constant attendance on the guests. 137

**F. R. MERK & CO.,**  
**Wholesale Grocers**  
 -AND-  
**COMMISSION MERCHANTS,**  
 Wallace St., - - - Virginia, M. T.  
 (Formerly occupied by Hanauer, Solomon & Co.)

**FIRE-PROOF WAREHOUSE.** Liberal advances made on consignments. All business promptly attended to. 1261  
 A. Griffith, John Mahan.  
**GRIFFITH & MAHAN,**  
 Wallace Street, - - - Virginia City, M. T.,  
 (Opposite the El Sol Billiard Hall)  
 DEALERS IN  
**Tobacco, Cigars,**  
**PIPES AND SNUFF,**  
 Which they will sell at  
**Wholesale and Retail,**  
 133 TO PURCHASERS.

**Woolworth & Barton's**  
 OVERLAND AND RIVER  
**Transportation Line.**

**WILL FORWARD FREIGHT TO MONTANA**  
 by first class boats from  
**St. Louis or Overland**

From terminals of the Union Pacific Railway, E. D.  
 Through Bills of Lading  
 Will be given at either of their Eastern offices to  
**FORT BENTON AND THE MINES**

Or they will receive consignments at St. Louis, acting in the place of the shipper in securing the very lowest rates, and always shipping by the most reliable boats.

**PARTIES SHIPPING**  
 To our care at St. Louis, can rely upon our securing for them a competition on the part of the Steamboat Lines for their Freight, thus enabling us to obtain the

**VERY LOWEST RATES**  
 And to ship on the most desirable boats. The business community of Montana have long felt the want of some  
**Responsible Forwarding Line**

To represent them at St. Louis, thus enabling them to avoid the risks of placing their business in the hands of steamboat agents who are paid to secure the highest rates.

**Woolworth & Barton,**  
 ST. LOUIS, MISSOURI.  
**PFOUTS & RUSSELL, Agents,** Virginia City, Montana. 191

**J. M. KNIGHT,**  
 SUCCESSOR TO  
**DAVIS, HOUSEL & CO.,**  
 OPPOSITE THE POST OFFICE,  
 VIRGINIA CITY, - - M. T.

**WHOLESALE AND RETAIL**  
**GROCERS, STORAGE**  
 -AND-  
**Commission Merchants,**  
 -Dealers in-

Liquors,  
 Cigars,  
 Flour,  
 Bacon,  
 Lard,  
 Dry Goods,  
 Clothing,  
 Boots, Shoes,  
 Queensware,  
 Glassware,  
 Hardware

Paints,  
 Oils,  
 Nails,  
 Glass,  
 Putty,

**Farming and Mining Implements, Etc.**  
 WE have a large and commodious  
**Fire-proof Warehouse**  
 Connected with our establishment. Liberal  
**Cash Advances**  
 Made on consignments of General Merchandise and Produce.  
 Subscriptions to the MONTANA POST received. 131

**Iron Pipes! Iron Pipes!**  
**THE UNDERSIGNED**  
 Having just completed ten miles of Iron Pipe for the San Mateo Water Company, is now prepared to fill all orders for  
**Iron Pipes,**  
**Distributing Boxes,**  
**Flanges,**  
**Couplings, etc.,**  
 -FOR-  
**MINERS & WATER COMPANIES.**

**PIPE FOR TRANSPORTATION WILL BE** cut, pushed and fitted, ready to be put together on the ground. All material furnished at  
**The Lowest Market Rates**  
 AND SATISFACTION GUARANTEED.

**MR. SMITH** being a practical man and having had ten years' experience in manufacturing or  
**Hydraulic Mines,**  
 Understands how the work should be done and gives it his personal attention.  
 Information as to thickness of iron and size of pipe required to discharge a given quantity of water, at any pressure, freely given; also, estimates prepared.  
**FRANCIS SMITH,**  
 111 and 114 Battery street,  
 San Francisco, California.  
**TOWNE & BACON,**  
 BOOK AND JOB PRINTERS,  
 BOOK BINDERS,  
 BLANK BOOK MAKERS,  
 PAPER RULERS,  
 536 Clay St., Opposite Leidesdorff,  
 SAN FRANCISCO, CAL.

**THIS Firm** are large importers of Paper, Printers Materials, Ink, etc., and with the largest Printing Office in the State, are able to do good work with dispatch, at very low prices.  
 Parties sending orders from the Interior will be served as faithfully as though personally present.  
 Samples and price lists furnished when desired, and all work guaranteed to give satisfaction.  
 Agents for H. D. Wade's Inks. 93

**JNO. S. SLATER,**  
 ATTORNEY  
 AND  
**COUNSELLOR AT LAW,**  
 and NOTARY PUBLIC.  
 Will attend promptly to all business of a legal nature, take depositions, administer oaths, etc., etc. Immediate attention given to the collection of all claims against the United States, especially such as may arise under the recent act of Congress equalizing bounties. Office over the store of Geo. L. Shoup, corner Wallace and Jackson streets, Virginia city, M. T. 136

**FOR FURTHER PARTICULARS AS TO** rates, insurance or contracts, apply to

**Bannaock Ads.**  
**SMITH & GRAETER,**  
 BANNAOCK CITY, M. T.,  
 Always have on hand and for sale a large variety of  
**GROCERIES,**  
 Consisting of

TEA,  
 COFFEE,  
 SUGARS,  
 SALT,  
 SPICES, &c.

ALSO,  
**FLOUR, BACON, HAM,**  
 CANNED FRUITS,  
 SOAP,  
 CANDLES,  
**HARDWARE, TINWARE,**  
**GLASSWARE,**  
 BOOTS, SHOES

**Dry Goods, Clothing,**  
 &c. Also a large and well assorted stock of  
**DRUGS AND MEDICINES,**  
 All of these articles will be sold  
**At the Lowest Cash Prices.**  
 We have a commodious  
**Fire Proof Warehouse,**  
 FOR  
**THE STORAGE OF GOODS.**

**Liberal Advances Will be Made on** consignments. 132

**DR. LEAVITT,**  
 Physician and Surgeon, Bannaock City, M. T. 107-6m

**J. B. PATTON, M. D.,**  
 Physician and Surgeon, Bannaock City, M. T. 132

**E. F. PHELPS,**  
 Attorney at Law, Bannaock, M. T.,  
 Will practice in all the courts of the Territory, and pay special attention to the collection of claims. 132

**J. N. WILLIAMS,**  
 Billiard Saloon, Bannaock, M. T.  
 A FINE stock of Liquors, Cigars, &c., may always be found at my rooms. 149

**FRANK'S**  
**CONFECTIONERY,**  
 WALLACE STREET,  
 Virginia City.....Montana.

**CAKES, PIES, BREAD,**  
**Cookies Canned Fruits,**  
 -AND-  
**FLAVORING EXTRACTS**  
 Kept constantly on hand.  
 We have on hand and will receive such goods as  
**CAKE ORNAMENTS, SUGAR FLOWERS, PANORAMA EGGS BASKETS, FANCY HEARTS**  
 And Candy Toys of all kinds.  
 Gum Drops, Cream Fondants,  
 Honey " French Kisses,  
 Cream " Bon Bons,  
 Cordial " Canded Fruits,  
 Brandy " Chewing Gum.  
 And all kinds of large and small  
**STICK CANDY,**  
 Shelled Almonds, Seedless Raisins,  
 Figs, Dates, Citron, Nuts,  
 Chocolate, Maple Sugar, Raisins, Jellies,  
 etc. etc. etc.  
 A fine lot of Foreign and Domestic  
**WINES AND CORDIALS,**  
 Anchoves, Holland Herring,  
 Swiss and Limburg Cheese,  
 Canned Chicken, Turkey  
 and Preserved Fruits.  
 An endless variety of  
 Playing Toys, Fireworks and Crackers.  
 For getting up Ball and Wedding Suppers, we are prepared to compete with any firm in the Territory.  
**FRANK PETCHNER.**  
 Administrator's Notice.  
 NOTICE is hereby given that I have this day been appointed, by the Probate court of Madison county, M. T., Administrator of the Estate of Cyrus W. Hyde, dec'd. All persons owing said estate will make payment to me, and all persons having claims against said estate will present the same according to law.  
 March 9, 133-136 R. K. Findlay, Adm'r.