

The Montana Post.

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 12, 1867.

Correspondence of the Evening Post.

Northern Pacific Railroad—Four Surveying Parties at Work.

St. CLOUD, MINNESOTA, August 29th. The Northern Pacific Railroad Company has now four surveying parties, of fifteen men each, at work in the field making surveys to enable the chief engineer to designate the most suitable route. The eastern division, beginning at Lake Superior, is under charge of assistant engineer Spaulding, who has two of the parties. One of these began operations at Bayfield, on Lake Superior, and is surveying towards this point.

The other began at Superior city, and has got through to the Mississippi, a little above Crow Wing. The country through which these parties are passing is principally a forest, alternating with hand wood and pine, the surface somewhat broken but well watered. The soil is of middling quality, and in some places there is an abundance of stone. The western division is under charge of General Tilton, who has two parties surveying eastward of the Columbia river and Puget Sound; the whole route being under charge of the chief engineer, Edwin P. Johnson, of Connecticut.

The Northern Pacific Railroad Company does not contemplate building any part of this road until it receives from Congress the same kind of aid that has been extended to the Central or Union route, namely, a loan of the national credit to the amount of \$16,000 per mile for the main part of the line, twice that amount as the line approaches the mountains, and treble that amount over the most difficult part of the mountains. An earnest effort will be made to procure this aid at the next session of Congress. The friends of this route claim that it is 500 miles shorter than the Central route, and that it acquires peculiar advantages by its connection with great natural water channels.

Johnson, the chief engineer, after visiting Bayfield and Superior, went down to St. Paul on the military road, and thence by rail to this point and Sauk Rapids, and by stage to Crow Wing. After examining that region, and going up as far as the French Rapids of the Mississippi in a canoe, he returned to St. Cloud with a view of visiting the famous prairie and lake region lying between this point and the Red River of the North. On the 13th inst., in company with General Andrews, we set out for the Red river on the stage road, returning along the west side of Sauk Valley. Eight years ago that part of the country to the Red river had made some progress, but three years later the Indian outbreak gave it a severe blow, from which it only began to rally about two years ago. The fact that this tour of Johnson to the Red river took in 11 respectable villages, besides the stations of Chippewa and Pomme de Terre, will show to what extent the settlements have grown. The names of these villages are as follows: St. Joseph, Cold Spring, Richmond, New Munich, Sauk Center, Osakis, Alexandria, McCannayville, Battle Lake, Ottentail City and Holme's City. Some of these are places supporting three or four good stores, while Sauk Center is a busy village of about 800 inhabitants, having mills, a printing office and a neat weekly journal. Johnson is of the opinion that a railroad would pay from here into Douglas county, a distance of about 80 miles.

The famed Sauk Valley is a little more than sixty miles in extent, following the stage road along the bend of the river. For the first forty miles it is settled pretty thickly by Germans, and thence on chiefly by Americans. The abundant wheat, oat and potato crop indicated the favorable condition of the soil and of the people. From St. Joseph to New Munich a road has been cut through the timber, shortening the distance 15 miles to Sauk Center, but it has not been sufficiently worked to be traveled, except in winter. It may be remarked that the Germans in this valley are Roman Catholics, and from St. Joseph to New Munich have seven neat looking churches. Five miles from St. Joseph is a college connected with the Order of St. Benedict, under charge of an Abbot of full rank who is now absent on a visit to Rome. The main building is a neat edifice of stone, handsomely situated on a lake and surrounded by an extensive forest of oaks and maples.

From Sauk Center to Pomme de Terre on the stage route, the country is elevated and rolling prairie, but well supplied with timber and watered by numerous clear streams and beautiful lakes. The route passes close to the Osakis and Pelican lakes, the view of and country around each being exceedingly charming. The succession of prairie, groves and lakes in the vicinity of Alexandria also renders that region most agreeable to the eye. Cultivated farms are now numerous in that locality. Handsome harvest fields are also to be seen at Chipewa, Evansville and Pomme de Terre; but as a general thing after getting a few miles from Alexandria the settlements are some distance off from the route, the first settlers having gone to timber, or the lake shore to cut the most inviting tracts. At Chipewa and at Pomme de Terre are ample log buildings surrounded by desirable stockades erected soon after the Indian outbreak.

One mile west of the latter station the Pomme de Terre river is easily forded, and thence on the country soon becomes more level till the broad horizon bound valley of the Red river is reached. The soil in that valley is remarkably rich, and the surface continues level to the Cheyenne and beyond. The Red river flows so stealthily in its narrow banks that the traveler comes upon it unexpectedly. Though its general course is direct, it has frequent abrupt bends, and its current, though strong and rapid, seems never to wear its tenacious banks so as to give itself more room, but keeps on in its obscure and confined channel, thus rendering itself more liable to overflow. In its upper valley there is no appearance of rock, except occasional boulders of granite and limestone.

Going north from Chippewa, the first five miles are through a splendid region of country, which is just beginning to be settled. On a rise of ground one mile north of Chippewa, the view takes in an expanse of many miles of luxuriant prairie and meadow, skirted with timber, through which towards the northwest

can be seen a silver gleam of lake. Many snug cabins and ample fields of ripened wheat were also visible; while further to the north, the Leaf Hills, rising to a height of 250 feet, gave picturesque to the delightful prospect. In some places the prairie grass was five feet high, and was rapidly making into hay by the settlers. In that locality was noticed one of the handsomest homesteads that could well be imagined, the natural beauty of which could hardly be improved by the most skillful landscape artist. On one side is a lake just visible through the trees. The soil is of the best quality and covered with luxuriant grass, and for half a mile on each side of the road are clusters of tall and thrifty oaks, so that the traveler can almost fancy he is traversing the lawns and avenues of some old estate of an English nobleman. The fortunate occupant of that homestead proved to be Frank Weber, formerly a sergeant in the Ninth Minnesota, who was wounded at Tupelo, and is a survivor of the horrors of Andersonville.

A settlement of sixteen families, who came from Iowa two years ago, have their dwellings tranquilly situated near together in the timber which skirts the north shore of Shell Lake. They have 300 acres of land broken, 200 acres of which are fenced and in crop. They are well supplied with cattle, horses and sheep, have a good school, are industrious, prosperous and contented.

Beautiful Ottertail Lake is a large and beautiful sheet of water, having handsome prairie sloping shores, fringed with forest. The soil for the most part, however, is only second rate. From the village at the head of the lake to Leaf Lake is the portage of a mile and a half in extent, over which, in former years, many explorers have passed in going from the waters of the Mississippi and the Gulf of Mexico to those of Hudson's Bay. About five miles north of the head of the lake is a new German settlement near Rush Lake.

From Holmes City to Sauk Center the country is moderately rolling. The road is good and the settlements along the route have lately increased rapidly. Since the first of March last the land entries and homestead filings at the land office of the district, including the county above described, have been as follows: 981 homestead settlers have filed statements, and 551 pre-emption settlers—making 1,533 settlers in the last six months, and covering nearly 200,000 acres of land. During the same time 921 scrip locations have been made, mostly by non-residents of the land, covering about 150,000 acres. About 7,000 acres have also been purchased with cash, and some 20,000 acres more have been located with warrants and Sioux half-breed scrip.

While these statistics show that a large proportion of the public land is taken up by actual settlers, they also serve to admonish the General Land Office at Washington that no more land should be brought into market for a great while to come, that it may be kept out of the hands of speculators and sacredly reserved and held for actual occupants.

Montana Volunteers Attack the Crows. We sincerely regret the news of an attack upon the Crow Indians by 600 volunteers in Montana. This outrage occurred two or three days ago. Gov. Smith must be solely responsible for an act which, as we understand the matter, should cost him his commission as Governor of Montana and indelible disgrace as a public officer. If he has permitted a murderous attack upon the Crows, who have been for more than a year working in the interest of the Government against Red Cloud and the Sioux—who have given protection to our people and have never injured the white man—he should be instantly removed from his office.

It is said that the Montana troops attacked the Crows in their own country, and in direct violation of the known policy of Gen. Terry, who has just returned from that Territory. The General received the news here a few days since, to the great astonishment of Gen. Sherman and himself. An investigation into the affair has been promptly ordered. We hope it will be searching and severe.—Omaha Herald.

The only thing to be regretted in the above is that it is not true.

UTILITY OF BEARDS.—There are more solid inducements for wearing the beard than the mere improvement of a man's personal appearance, and the cultivation of such an aid to the every day diplomacy of life. Nature combining, as she never fails to do, the useful with the ornamental, provides us with a far better respirator than science could ever make, and one that is never so hideous to wear as that black seal upon the face that looks like a passport to the realms of suffering and death. The hair of the moustache not only absorbs the moisture and miasma of the fogs, but it strains the air from the dust and soot of our great cities. It acts also in the most scientific manner, by taking heat from the warm breath as it leaves the chest, and supplying it to the cold air taken in. It is not only a respirator, but, with the beard entire, we are provided with a comforter as well; and these are never left at home, like the umbrellas, and all such appliances, whenever they are wanted. Moffat and Livingston, the African explorers, and many other travellers, say that in the night no wrapper can equal the beard. The remarkable thing is, too, that the beard, like the hair of the head, protects against the heat of the sun; but more than this it becomes moist with the perspiration, and then, by evaporation, it cools the skin. A man who accepts this protection of nature may face the rudest storm and the hardest winter. He may go from the hottest room into the coldest air without any dread; and we verily believe he might also sleep in a morass with impunity; at least his chance of escaping a terrible fever would be better than his beard's companions.

At the recent annual meeting of the French Free Masons the question was raised whether or not the use of the formula "to the glory of the great Architect of the Universe" was to be held obligatory in all cases. The debate was warm, and resulted in the retention of the formula, by a vote of one hundred against sixty-seven.

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On All Parts of Europe.

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Our Assays we Guarantee

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HELENA, MONTANA TERRITORY.

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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

SILVER BOW HOTEL,

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Coffee, Sugar, Bacon, Teas, Syrups, Liquors, Tobacco, Cigars, Etc., Etc.

A Large and Well Assorted Stock of Family and

Fancy Groceries,

Constantly on hand, and sold at lowest market rates.

Small Profits

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QUICK RETURNS!

The "Miners' Store," Yet

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Corner of Idaho and Jackson Streets,

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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

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WILL LEAVE VIRGINIA CITY EVERY MONDAY MORNING, FOR

Sterling, Willow Creek, Gallatin City, Morse's Store, Parsons' Ranch, Middle Creek, Bozeman City, and Elk Grove.

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Office at J. M. Knight's, Wallace St. JAMES F. FORMAN, Prop'r

May 8, 1867. 142tf

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AND

COUNSELLOR AT LAW,

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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

TO FARMERS.

500 BUSHELS seed winter wheat and one hundred bushels winter rye for sale. Two of the choicest varieties of wheat known, the "White Victoria" and premium Red River Merit wheat, introduced here in 1864, directly by the undersigned, and now thoroughly acclimated. The last crop yielded over 70 bushels per acre, the greatest yield ever obtained east of the Rocky Mountains. Neither the grasshoppers or wheat worm have ever injured it, and the crop has never been irrigated. Will be ready for sale early in September. May be sown last of October. Price \$2 to \$6 per bushel at my granary. May be had of D. C. Farwell, Virginia City; McPherson & Hall, Helena; Jno. Henry, Crow Creek Crossing, where cost of freight and sacks will be added. Farmers can ship together and send teams to my place and save freight. White spring wheat No. 1 and American stock at cash price taken in exchange at my Ranch, three miles below Eutamias, East Gallatin River. L. E. LYMAN, w152-1f August 1st, 1867.

LEA F. MARSTON,

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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

NEVADA BREWERY,

A. SCHEFFLER, Prop'r.

IN returning my thanks for past patronage, I would respectfully inform the public that I keep constantly on hand the best quality of

LAGER BEER

for sale as heretofore in quantities to suit customers.

I have also refitted and refurnished my

NEVADA SALOON AND BAKERY,

Where can always be had the best quality of Bee Assorted Liquors, Cigars, Bread, Pies, &c., &c. w152-164 A. SCHEFFLER, ETC.

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A GENTLEMAN who suffered for years from a Nervous Debility, Premature Decay, and all the effects of youthful indiscretion, will, for the sake of suffering humanity, send free to all who need it, the receipt and directions for making the simple remedy by which he was cured. Sufferers wishing to profit by the advertiser's experience, can do so by addressing, in perfect confidence,

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And something never before brought

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CALL AND EXAMINE

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