The Montana Post.

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THE MEXICAN PROJECT.

The statement in the telegrams that the proposition is entertained by the great powers to put an end to the interminable dissensions, wars and revolts, of Mexico, by taking possession of it and giving it up to the United States, is not improbable. Mexico has not had a peaceful year for decades. An area of 646,000 square miles, nearly fourteen time as large as New York; having a population of 8,000,000 souls; laved by the waters of the two great oceans; exhuberantly fertile, and producing almost spontaneously the most valued products of the temperate and torrid zone, richer in the precious minerals than any known rejion of the earth except perhaps California, is in a perpetual turmoil. Where nature has exerted herself most, to make one great garden of her haciendas, and reward toil with munificent wealth, the red dragon of war has taken arbitrary possession; the sweat of the laborer is blood, and the harvest of skeletons is garnered in fullness to the grave. While the fields lie in fallow, the prodigal spirit of war riots in plenty and spends the substance of the poor; and ships sail out and in with empty keels or lie rotting by the silent docks, where Commerce would sing its busy notes and float the colors of all nations. The world has waited long for better. No flag protects the people of other nations from spoliation, imprisonment or death, and their ministers are treated with contempt. Mexico naturally belongs to the United States and its acquisition is but a question of time. Its twenty-three States will be added to the Union, ere the Monroe doctrine is fully established. The same policy and spirit that paid $15,000,000 for Louisiana, $15,000,000 more for the slice along the Pacific coast, and that said "54° 40' or fight" for Oregon, will evince itself before long in regard to Mexico. True, we have immense undeveloped territory, but a population that has increased thirteen fold in less than a century; that is being added to at the rate of six millions a year by immigration, and that possesses the elements it does, will soon demand room in the south-west. The mines of Mexico thirty years ago yielded $27,000,000 per annum, the agricultural products ten times that amount, and its total products were $400,000,000 per annum, although but one eighth of the arable land was then under cultivation. The total real estate valuation of the country is about one half as much as our national debt. The infusion of American energy into the sluggish veins of that country; the strong hand of order and established government to protect and encourage industry, are what Mexico requires, while the blot she has been upon the escutcheon of government needs to be wiped out for the credit of mankind. The millenium never can come while Mexico and Utah are independent governments.

EXPLOSIVE PROJECTILES.

It was stated some time since, that the Czar of Russia, with the object of detracting from the horrors of war, had proposed to do away with explosive projectiles. His proposition was afterwards explained to refer only to musket or rifle projectiles, manufactured so that upon entering the body or other substance they burst. It will be noticed that the subject has been introduced in the English Parliament, and all the great powers have been invited to enter into the agreement. It is certainly a matter that should meet with approval by all Christian powers. While it is held that the more destructive are made the engines of warfare, the fewer and shorter are wars, and the number slain and wounded is less; the use of explosive bullets is a barbarism at which humanity revolts, and none but those who have witnessed their effects can truly appreciate what terrible instruments of torture they are. To battle for ones country is an evidence of the truest patriotism, and scarce a generation comes into the world that is not called upon to attest its heroic virtues on the field. Some must be right and some wrong. It is sad enough to see the young and noble slain or crippled, but there is awakened in mankind the bitterest malignity and worst passions when the ball is poisoned, or it seeks the body of a comrade, and as he sinks to the earth murders him with its fire and bursting fragments. No good soldier would deliberately strike another wounded and maimed; and for a government to furnish these projectiles to its soldiers is to send with each ball a cowardly cold blooded assassin to kill or fearfully cripple the wounded and mutilate the dead. To the honor of our country, we believe it can be said no such projectiles were ever manufactured in the United States. What few were used were of English importation, run through the blockade, and no sight ever called up such unrelenting passion, or so intensified the hatreds of war as the sight of torn and blackened wounds made by these leaden slug-shaped instruments of assassination. It is well that England should entertain favorably the proposition of the Czar, and it will meet with the approval of all soldiers when they are outlawed by the nations.

ENDURE AND LIVE.

The *Gazette* is in deep water in regard to the Meagher County nominations by the independents, because they have placed on their ticket Col. J. J. Hull, and it has been launching with vigorous earnestness its political anathemas upon the heads of those who have thrown overboard the standing committee of unworthiness and nominated those who we are informed are the best men they could find in the two parties. It is said the Democrats on the ticket are "after the strictest kind," and we regret that the Republicans did not find it expedient to nominate on a straight ticket, men of thorough Republican principles, and compel the Democrats whose sense of right revolted at the so-called Domocratic ticket, to support it, by the appeal it would have been to their common sense. Instead of this, however, the Democrats appear to have been in a large majority and to have monopolized all the fat offices of the county, merely throwing the laborious and non-paying offices to Republicans. Still the *Gazette* frets, sweats and issues labored pronunciamentos against Messrs. Favorite and Hull, denouncing the latter as a Union Leaguer, member of the Grand Army of the Republic, etc. While we would be most happy if such were the case, we promise the anxious *Gazette* man that he is neither one or the other. There is no Union League organized in Montana, and he is not eligible to membership in the G. A. R. While there is not a man, Republican or Democrat, but that would do himself honor, and the best act he could for Meagher county, by voting for "Jackie" Hull, we can assure the *Gazette* it need not trouble itself to argue the case, for he will come over from Gallatin and the Yellowstone with several hundred majority over any candidate that can be named. Take it cool. The thermometer is up in the nineties. Some valuable lives have been sacrificed in the east, owing to the condition of that instrument and the Democratic party. The friends of the eternal principles of repudiation, greenback redemption and New York riots could ill afford to lose by over exertion over so trivial a matter, the only person in Montana who "read all the evidence in the impeachment trial." We do not feel at all exultant over the crumbs that have been thrown to the Republicans, believing in all elections like this in the strict drawing of party lines, but our Republican friends of Meagher having determined on this course, the best thing they can do is to give a strong pull and keep their shoulders ready for the straight harness they will be required to pull in next autumn?

IMPORTS AND EXPORTS.

Although it was the earnest desire of Republicans that a protective Tariff Bill should be passed at this session of Congress, it was stated a few days since, that Morrell of Pennsylvania, reported that the Committee on Manufactures had decided to not press the consideration of the measure this session, and it will lay over until the next session. The strikes among workmen, now a source of serious trouble in mining and manufacturing districts in the east, are greatly owing to the inability of manufacturers to pay the wages actually necessary to maintain laborers and put their goods in the market at figures that will compete with foreign importations. Not only would it add largely to the revenue of the country but it would give a steady stimulus to trade and prevent any such manifestations as now threaten trouble in Pennsylvania. The following statement of importations and exportations from the Philadelphia *North American* has a deep significance, and shows how ruinous is the anti-tariff policy. The country has so far escaped a financial crash, but unless some protection is afforded to American labor and manufactures at an early day, the ensuing year may well be anticipated with anxious solicitude. The country is strong in its great resources, but even this will not sustain this continuous drain.

The balance of trade against this country has been $723,266,717, gold, since 1861. To meet this we have exported $436,301,029 of government bonds, and $286,965,698 of coin above our imports. From 1860 to 1861, both inclusive, our importations were $476,928,616 in excess of our exports, and the excess of our coin export over import was $424,551,794; making a balance of trade amounting to $1,002,195,331 against us for eighteen years, with a loss of coin amounting to seven hundred and eleven millions, five hundred and seventeen thousand six hundred and sixty-seven dollars, or an amount equal to the whole gold and silver product of the country for that period. The consumption of foreign goods in 1866 was equal to twelve dollars and twenty-two cents per capita, for a population of thirty-five millions, and all of our own factories were stopping from a lack of support. In 1867 this consumption amounted to eleven dollars and fifteen cents per capita, whereas it was only eleven dollars and eighty-one cents per capita in the crash of 1857, and averaged but five dollars and forty-four cents under the tariff of 1842.

THAT "RECORD."

The *Herald* of last evening, after several months of boorish blackguardism, unparalleled by other most grossly indecent sheets in the United States, changes its tune. Whether the fact of gentlemen, whom it dare not traduce, calling and leaving an *ultimatum* that it should cease or their support be withdrawn, had anything to do with the whitewash on the sepulchral thing or not, would be interesting, if an "affidavit" or two from that office would mention it. It will be noticed that the *Herald* does not deny, and it dare not, that its proprietors had proclaimed their purpose "to drive Mr. Pinney from Helena," and that the "resolutions" it flaunts each day was the barter for which it sold its "independence." It now publishes "records," and paws the ground for a fight. Very well, it shall have it to its content. It has been against the policy of this paper to permit any personal controversies in its editorial or local columns. It is in the interest of the party, not individuals. Its aim is to be a newspaper, not a vehicle for personal quarrels, and the vilest attacks of that curse and disgrace of the party and the Territory, the Helena *Herald*, has not succeeded in eliciting a controversy even when aimed at the publishers or editor. It having, however, published last evening a statement that Mr. Pinney was a Democrat in Dakota, and sustained (?) it by the publication of a resolution that does not say anything about it, Mr. Pinney desires to give a little further light on this matter than it has pleased the *Herald* to reflect. With the same privilege accorded to any citizen attacked for official acts, he will over his own signature give it attention in the next issue of the POST. In the mean time the *Herald* is invited to wade in promiscuously.

MINERAL LANDS.

We notice in a recent California paper a lengthy letter from Commissioner Wilson to the Register and Receiver of the United States, Land Office, at Marysville, California, relating to the application of the Kelsey Gold and Silver Mining Company, for patent to 6,300 linear feet upon the Kelsey Lode, Kelsey Mining District, Eldorado County, California.

The whole letter would probably be interesting to parties desiring patents for mineral lands, but we have not space for its reproduction. The papers forwarded by the local land officers, were declared by the Commissioner to be defective in the following points:

1st. That there was no evidence that the Company had been incorporated as set forth in the application.

2nd. That there was no evidence as to the character of the vein exposed.

3rd. That there was no evidence that $1,000.00 had been expended on the claim, in actual labor and improvements.

4th. That there was no proof of holding the possessory title, and that the copy of the original location transmitted refers to the Kelsey Lode, and to the same claim represented by applicants. And as these locators claimed but 6,000 feet, it must be explained why and by what right the present applicants claim 6,300 feet, if their title is derived from said locators.

5th. Want of evidence that a diagram of the claim had been filed in the local land office, and that a notice of the application had been posted by the Register.

6th. But three sections or articles of the mining customs were transmitted. A certified copy of all the customs complete as they existed at the date of the location, must be sent.

7th. No survey and plat of the claim with the required endorsements was transmitted to the General Land Office.

8th. That there was no evidence that the claim as surveyed and platted, contained but one *known* vein or lode.

The Commissioner further states:

"When applicants before you present as important facts the affidavits of absent persons, you will require them to have the characters for truth of such absent deponents, vouched for by some responsible officer to whom they are known, and you should not receive affidavits unless this requirement is complied with in good faith, and having satisfied yourselves of the credibility of deponents, you will advise this office touching the same. * * * * In future you will accompany all transmittals with a letter of advice, and in these mining cases you will transmit all the testimony filed in each case, with your joint opinion on the claims of the applicants.

Very respectfully,
JAS. WILSON Comm'r."

In the above case it occurs to us that the Marysville Land Officers must have made some blunders hardly excusable in an old office, even acting under a law so vague and contradictory as the Mineral Act of July 26, 1866 · and the strictures of the Commissioner seem to us to be, in the main, just and proper.

It may be a matter of surprise, to those who are familiar with the 4th section of the act named, which provides "that not more than three thousand feet shall be taken in any one claim, by any association of persons." to observe from reading the above that the Kelsey G. & S. Mining Co. made application for 36,000 feet upon their lode and that the Commissioner, Wilson, objected to but 300 feet of the same and to that only, on the ground that proper title was not shown to the same.

This will be explained by a recent ruling of the Commissioner wherein he explains that the restriction of 3000 feet is only held to apply to such mining claims as have been located since July 26, 1866, the date of the mining law, and it appeared that the "Kelsey Lode" was located June 29. 1868.

It would be well for our land officers here and all persons having dealings in the Land Office, to make note of what the Commissioner says as to the "affidavits of absent persons." We do not believe the rule regarding the same as above laid down, has been understood and followed heretofore in the Land Office here, and proceedings in mineral cases might be vitiated and delayed by want of attention to the same.

FOURTH COUNCIL DISTRICT.

In the counties of Choteau, Gallatin and Meagher, the nominations have been made for the election on the 3rd. They, with Big Horn, which casts but a few votes, constitute the Fourth Council District. In none but Gallatin has any nomination been made for the Council. Gallatin County selected J. J. Hull, and it is not less in accordance with our own wishes, than in response to numerous communications from that valley, we solicit that his name be placed at the head of the ticket in those counties and every exertion put forth in his behalf. Col. Hull has been a resident of Virginia City for years, and is known personally or by reputation to nearly every man in Montana. He has held Territorial offices of trust in years past, discharged his duties faithfully and well, and, although desiring to give close attention to his personal business, he has at the urgent request of the people of Gallatin, consented to the use of his name as a candidate. He is a practical business man, and a fine speaker; one of the oldest residents of the Territory, and if elected will discharge the duties of his office as fully to the satisfaction of his constituents as any man in Montana. We do not know a candidate for whom we could more conscientiously bespeak vigilant effort, and it is with gratification we have the assurance from all portions of Gallatin county, that he will receive an overwhelming majority, and run far ahead of the party strength. The vote of Gallatin county and the three camps on the Yellowstone will approximate to 1500, of which he will receive fully three fourths. Leading men of the party in the several counties we have named, should see at once that his name is placed upon all the tickets, and the Fourth District will have a Representative who will labor unremittingly for the best interests of his constituents, and make a record unsurpassed by none in the Fifth Session of the Legislature of Montana.

WORK FOR THE TICKET.

In giving publication to a communication signed "Unionist," we feel required to make an explanatory statement. There is not an assertion in it that cannot be proved in a court of justice, and to the satisfaction of the community. The principal statements in that letter and more, was known to the persons conducting this paper, when we hoisted the names of the nominees as our candidates for the campaign. We mention this as an assurance that whatever side issues were foisted upon that Convention, matters in no wise pertaining to its duties or within its sphere, the platform was just such as we would have chosen, and the candidates men of unsullied character, true Republicans, and worthy of honest support. With the one purpose in view, fealty to the Republican party; content to await a proper time for the adjudication of other issues, we have entered the campaign cordially and earnest. The communication is published at the solicitation of those conversant with the circumstances and in no way connected with this paper, they believing that the public should know the facts, and desiring to call them out, that Republicans might see the traitor they were giving sustenance and life. It was not our personal wish to permit its agitation at this time, and in evidence of our desire to see a united effort at the polls to defeat the common enemy and to elect the nominees of that convention, we urge the friends of this paper to give the ticket, for it is a good one, their cheerful, earnest, unanimous support and it shall have ours. The *Gazette* of yesterday says there are "two factions here but both support the ticket." This is not true. No factionist is a friend of the POST. He must endorse the Chicago platform without reserve, favor undeviating Republicans for office, not merely as men but as representatives of principles, and we are with them, heart and soul, every day in the week. That is what we mean by our Republicanism In a business point of view this paper has no cause to regret the conduct of the *Herald*, while the Executive Board of the Territorial Committee are ready and most willing to give the too cunning ring that blindfolded the Convention, all the attention it deserves at the proper time.

GALLATIN.

Mr. R. P. Vivion, Probate Judge of Gallatin County, having resigned his office, the Republicans have placed on their ticket for that office, the name of L. B. Lyman, a gentleman well qualified to perform the now increased and responsible duties of the office. The very best feeling exists among the Republicans of the Garden Valley. and the split among the Democracy, which the *Gazette* so deprecates in Meagher County, is not a comparison to the hopeless condition of the Democracy of Gallatin. They are utterly disgusted with the manner in which political meetings have been packed and ring tickets shoved upon them in that County, and will throw off their yoke and vote for the unexceptionable nominees of the Republicans. It is believed every man on the ticket will be handsomely elected.

Civilization has marched westward, and one of the necessities of civilized society is to have doors and widows well secured by good locks and fastenings.

We recommend also to husbands and fathers that they furnish their wives and daughters with pistols and ammunition and let them practice at loading and firing them, until they become experts at the business.—*Deseret News.*

Ma consience! The world moves mysteriously. The Mormon Church paper advises the men clustering locks to adore to secure all widows, and patronize "bars," while the wives and daughters are to use "powder" freely, give their attion to "balls" and "set their caps" for all comers. Have a care that it is the loads that "go off" and not the women,—Bro. C."

(COMMUNICATED.)

EDITOR POST.—Although common decency and good taste require that a journalist should eschew egotism, and undue exhibition of personal venom, I perceive that the *Herald* as run now by the consequential "family," is so habituated to disregard these requirements, that an issue of that paper without containing a scurrilous attack upon the "great Bankrupt," is like seeing "the play of Hamlet with Hamlet left out."

I write, Mr. Editor, not for the purpose of defending Mr. Pinney, but to protest against such prostitution of journalism, and to suggest to the "family" the adage that "those who live in glass houses ought not to throw stones." The *Herald* should know that there is such a thing as carrying proscription and persecution too far, and that others besides the "family" have "an inalienable right" to maintain themselves in Helena. That envy and jealousy of a newspaper is what prompts the continued indecent, vulgar attack of the *Herald* upon Mr. Pinney is palpable to every one, and I speak what I know when I say the public are beginning to understand it well.

Who comprise, and what is the personal status of the unimpeachable (?) family, who proclaim it their purpose to drive Mr. Pinney from Helena? A recent law suit developed the fact that, as a bankrupt the elder one at least, rivals the "Great Bankrupt" of the POST. Cannot the POST ascertain and make known to the public the antecedents of the others?

A word about politics. That the late County Convention was packed for the express purpose of denouncing Mr. Pinney we challenge the "responsible" managers thereof to deny; and it is a matter of sincere regret that respectable and honest men should have permitted themselves to be used by the "family" as tools to accomplish that end. Notwithstanding the unjust course of the Convention towards Mr. Pinney, I am glad to see that, as a consistent Republican, whose heart is in the cause, he accords the ticket nominated a cheerful and cordial support. Suppose the Convention had refused to denounce Mr. Pinney, would the "family" have supported the ticket as he is now doing? Did not they or their representatives ask of the Convention the denunciation of Mr. P., as a *sine qua non* for their supporting the ticket. If so, and I dare a denial of it, is that true Republicanism? I predict that the "vaulting ambition" of the *Herald* will o'er leap itself; that its malignant course will result to its own injury, and that the true Republicans of Helena will day by day withdraw their support from a "family" cabal whose *avowed* object is PROSCRIPTION AND PERSECUTION.

UNIONIST.

Helena, July 23, 1868.

FROM THE NORTH-WEST.

The '49-er laid up—Mines "Petered"—New Mines on Pen-D'Oreille River—Kootenai and Libby Creek Mines—About Redskins—Weather and Crops—Trains for Montana—Flour and Freight.

EDITORS POST.—The steamer "49," running on the upper Columbia River between the Little Dalles and Big Bend, has been laid up. Cause; want of patronage to justify her running, the mines in Big Bend and on 49 Creek having almost "petered out."

The Indian Agent, G. N. Paige, a very worthy man, is lying dangerously ill. His recovery is considered very doubtful—complaint, inflamation of the bowels.

The people of Celville are cutting a trail into the new diggings, said to exist on several of the tributaries of the Pen D'Oreille, coming in on the north side of said river. The prospectors say they have prospected one creek that averaged 11 cents to the pan for a distance of five miles. Distance from Celville about 60 miles.

The Kootenai mines are still holding out and good average wages are being realized. This camp, Wild Horse Creek, has been one of the best paying little camps in the eastern part of British Columbia.

There are about 100 miners at work on Libby Creek, making from $6 to $8 a day to the hand. The water is very high in that section, and up to this time, no new discoveries have been made. These mines were discovered last fall.

John Turner was arrested this week on the Camas ground, some 40 miles north of Lewiston, by a posse of soldiers from Ft. Lapenai. Offence, selling "pise chuck" to the Indians. There are a thousand there of the Spokanes, Coeur de Alenes, Nes Perces and Pelorcses, digging out their winter's grub; that is, the female portion. The males are gambling, drinking whisky and running horses—favorite amusements with the "red lords."

We have had frequent heavy rains for the last month; weather cool and disagreeable. The crops in this section look well and give promise of an unusual yield.

There are about thirteen trains on their way from Walla Walla to the Blackfoot country with goods, quite a number of which are loaded with flour. The Montana market will not suffer, the coming winter, for the want of this indispensable article of consumption. Some are loaded at 13 cents freight.

The Mullan road, through the Coeur de Alene mountain is said to be very muddy, and the streams unusually full for this season of the year.

Freight at 13 cents per pound will come pretty near competing with the prices charged up the Missouri River? Eh!

Yours &c.,
D. J. SCHNEBLY.

SPOKANE BRIDGE, Washington Ter., July 3, '68

FROM HIGHLAND GULCH.

Professor Swallow's Mill—Quartz and Placers—Masonic—"The Mystic 3's."

EDITOR POST.—At last Highland is to be awakened from its long sleep, by the sound of the steam whistle and the pounding of twenty-four stamps on some of the best quartz in the Territory. It will be music to us after waiting, wishing and praying for a quartz mill, for nearly two years, knowing it was the one thing needfull to our success as a camp.

Prof. Swallow received a hearty welcome, I assure you, and seemed to be very much pleased with developments that have been made since his first visit to us. He intends to build his nest amongst us, and when the other "Swallows homeward fly," we promise to make their new home as pleasant for them as a home on the top of the Rocky Mountains can be made, by warm hearts and well wishes.

The lumber contracts for the mill are already let, and that model of master-workmen, Horace Countryman, who is to build it, is here with a force of mechanics that looks like business.

The flume of the Ballarat Co. is now about four hundred and fifty feet in length. They have run through the Talco lode at a depth of one hundred and seventy feet from the surface and find a seven foot crevice prospecting very well. They are still going in day and night and expect to reach the Ballarat in a few days.

The Irwins' and Only Chance Companies, and I believe the Cheyenne Company, have each an arastra running. There are ten or twelve companies at work in the Gulch, most of them in 'pay grit.' Messrs McKinsick, Barns & Co., at the head of the main gulch are rushing the dirt through their ground sluice at a rate that will soon find the 'streak,' if it is in their ground; and the Bed-rock Flume Company, at the other end, are prosecuting their labors with a degree of energy that deserves, and we have no doubt will be rewarded with, success.

The Masons are refiting their Hall and will soon have it in a condition that will be a credit to themselves and the camp. The society known as the "L., of A. B.," seems to have taken a fresh hold—the mystic 3's are thicker than ever, and judging from the sounds that reach the ears of the 'outsiders,' from sun-set till the "wee sma hours," about twice a week, we are forced to admit that the "Hoo Doos" have heaps of fun—"but Aleck and Eph have been in the mountains too long boys, you can't fool them now."

ICHABOD.

Red Mountain city, July 15, '68.

FROM SILVER STAR DISTRICT.

The lay of the Land—Bates & Trivett's Mill—The Iron Rod Lode—The Cleveland Company's Mill—Quality of Gold.

DEAR POST.—On the eastern slope of Red Mountain bordering on the fertile valley, a few miles below where Stinkingwater, Beaverhead and Big Hole, form the Jefferson River, the country is cut up into innumerable ravines and traversed by many rich gold ledges. The district is named Silver Star, surely not from the fact that silver ledges are found here, for so far, at least, none have been discovered. As yet, this camp only boasts of one quartz mill, Bates & Trivetts, twelve stamps in two batteries with one arastra and settler, driven by a stationary engine. The mill in all its details is a model for a mill-wright, and I have not seen a neater one and more perfect working machinery than this. Here every twelve hours the plates are cleaned up, and as I was present, can say that the clean ups were large in every instance, and seemed to give satisfaction to the proprietors, who, although they in every particular afforded me facilities to see what they were doing, have adopted as a rule, not to make public the yield of their ore. This mill will close for a time; the reason may be conjectured, as it cannot be ascertained from those most interested. The quartz for this mill has been furnished from the Iron Rod, one of the first discovered ledges in the district, from a depth of 130 feet, from where a tunnel is now being driven in a south-westerly direction, at the present writing, 50 feet long. The crevice although pinching at the depth spoken of on account of an immense horse, is now widening again and furnishing excellent ore. Numerous other ledges are located in the immediate vicinity of the Iron Rod, but little work has been done on them. A new mill is soon to be erected two miles below Bates & Trivetts, to crush from the celebrated Green Campbell lode, considered the largest and best paying quartz vein in this district and from which several thousand tons lie ready for the mill. The gold in this district is of inferior quality, .615 fine and valued at $11.20, coin, per ounce.

B. R. D.

SILVER STAR DIST. MAD. Co., July 16, 1868.

FROM ROCHESTER GULCH.

Its Discovery—Development—Hendrie and Woodward's Mill—The Watseka Lode—Other Ledges, Arastras, etc.

EDITOR POST.—This the smallest, in number of population, of all the mining camps in Montana deserves more than a passing notice, from the fact that at no very distant day it will be one of the best quartz paying districts in our Territory. Discovered in 1866, by Z. D. Mathus and Mr. Powers, not assisted by any rich placer mines to give it notoriety, it devolved alone upon the energy and perseverance of the discoverers to build up this camp.

The Gulch is a western tributary of the Big Hole river, and the main ledges are situated about six miles from its confluence with the latter. Messrs Hendrie and Woodward, attracted by the natural advantages this district has over many others, and the rich prospects obtained from the Watseka lode, have erected a ten stamp mill with arastra, and since commencing to crush have uninterruptedly realized handsome returns. The exact yield of the ore however cannot be ascertained; the proprietors from cause unknown withholding the information. The Watseka crosses the district in a northeasterly direction, and dips at an angle of 40° west; is traceable on the surface for nearly 3,000 feet being situated on low, rolling prairie hills very easy of access. The character of the ore is decomposed flint quartz, in a crevice of four feet average wherever struck, and seven men, only working in the day-time, readily supply the mill. On No. 3, a shaft of 120 feet deep run into "a horse." Work of sinking was discontinued and stoping commenced; however as soon as enough quartz to supply the mill for a time is on the dump, work will be resumed in sinking down. The mill company own 600 feet on this ledge and may safely term it some of the best property in the Territory.

Numerous other ledges have been discovered in this vicinity, in what is known as Rochester Basin, a fine, open, richly grass-carpeted valley, some four miles square, well watered, and near to inexhaustable forests of timber, affording the best facilities for mills.

Messrs Virgin and James have two one-horse arastras in operation, crushing from the Dunderberg, where I found the well known indominable prospector, Miles Cavanaugh getting out ore, which by the rude arastra process yields $23.. to the ton. No town has, as yet, been laid out here, and the whole number of scattered habitations will not exceed a dozen.

B. D.

Rochester Gulch, Rabbit Dist., July 17, 1868.

The I. O. of G. T. has a Lodge in every city in Colorado.