

NAMES IN A NEW STATE.

Historical Reasons Given for Naming Various Localities in Montana.

Strange Adventures Give Cause for Some Curious Nomenclature.

Indians and White Men Take a Hand in Bestowing Titles. Story of Idaho's Christening.

The origin of names is a curious study, affording a fund of amusement to those who have the time to devote to it. Among civilized races there is little significance in the names of people. In most cases the meaning is lost in the misty past. Most Christian names are selected because they have been borne by great men, or relatives or friends. But in the wild unfeathered west a different condition of things existed in the past and names having a significance peculiarly appropriate have in many instances been selected. The Indian, the aborigine of America, have, until recently, always chosen names for their children from any circumstance noted at the time of the birth of the child. For instance, the father steps out of his lodge and seeing a bird, or animal, or anything that strikes his fancy, he forthwith applies the name of the object seen to the child, as a Crane in the Sky, Sitting Bull, Looking-glass, Red Cloud, Little Dog and so on, all taken from objects that attracted the fancy and attention of the parent. While many of the names in Montana applied to natural objects are common enough for the oldest settled communities in the east, there are still a few that are worthy of notice. The best are derived from the Indian tongues. Following is a list of names selected at random from various parts of Montana, and definitions of their origin and meaning. All are recorded for with the exception of Bear and Grizzly gulches. The stories relating the queer manner in which they received their names are pronounced true by the best posted men in the country, but you know there may be some doubt about it.

The names Deer Lodge, river, valley and county have the same origin. The valley was noted many years ago as a great place for deer, and the name was bestowed by Lewis and Clark nearly 20 years ago. The musical name of Missoula is of Indian origin, and means a place of meeting. Lewis and Clark is named for the great explorers; originally it was called Edgerton, after one of the governors of the territory, but this name was dropped by act of the legislature, and the more appropriate name of Lewis and Clark substituted. Jefferson county, of course, is named after Thomas Jefferson, Silver Bow county was named from the mining district, which was so called on account of the great amount of silver to be found there. Beaverhead, from a curious shaped rock that is supposed to resemble the head of a beaver. The Madison, Clearwater and Gallatin rivers, which run at Three Forks and from the Missouri river, were so called in honor of the then president, secretary of state and secretary of the treasury. Meagher county was named after the Irish patriot, who escaping from a British penal colony, came to the United States, became a general in the Union army during the rebellion, and was afterwards governor of Montana. Choteau county took its name from the well-known trader who settled in St. Louis in his infancy, and established posts along the Missouri and into the Rocky mountains. Ferns county is named in honor of Andrew Ferns, one of the early settlers in Montana, to that was also in Minnesota, giving the name of Ferns Falls and Ferns county to that state. Yellowstone county was named from the river of that name which forms its southern boundary. The name of Indian origin and was applied to the river because of the yellow rocks and stones in the canyons towards its source. The origin of the name of Custer county, of course, all know. It was given in honor of the gallant soldier who, with his entire command, was annihilated by the Sioux in 1876.

Park county derives its name from the Yellowstone Park. DeWanna county is named after Capt. Dawson, Shoshone, or Snake river Indian. Fortunate river and Shoshone mountains, Fortunate canyon was a favorite place for road agents to get in their work in early days, and a number of passengers were killed and robbed there. Blackfoot, from the Blackfoot Indians. Bozeman was so named from a celebrated guide and scout, the companion of Jim Bridger, after whom Bridger pass, near Bozeman, is named. Powder river, in eastern Montana, is said to have been so named by the Indians, several of whom in attempting to ford the stream mired in a quicksand resembling powder, hence the name, Powder river. Milk river, from the color of the water. Judith river, basin and mountain from a Frenchman of that name. Nehalem mining camp was so named from the discovery. Benton, the river metropolis, after Thomas H. Benton, who was thirty years a senator from the state of Missouri. Teton is a name applied to a tributary of the Missouri above Benton, more properly, however, to the three tall peaks south of the National park. They stand out in bold relief and can be seen from a great distance. No tourist has ever been able to ascend to the top of the highest of them, as they are composed of solid rock and are almost perpendicular. At the base of the center one is a large lake of clear, cold water. They are called the Three Teton mountains, or breasts, in Indian vernacular. Froze-to-Death creek derived its peculiar name from the fact that a number of Indians were once found frozen to death here, having been overtaken by a blizzard when on a steaming expedition, no doubt. Crook-jenny is said to mean the bridge of the nose. A small stream in Carter county bears this name, which is so named on account of a low ridge near the crossing which resembles the human nose. Dearborn river is named from an ancient one-horse vehicle that broke down there with its occupants, one of the early Jesuit fathers. The word dearborn, as applied to a buggy, is now obsolete. Bitter Lake was a place where the Indians manufactured "medicine" from a bitter root found in that section of the country. Jacko agency was named after a celebrated Indian chief. Hell Gate canyon was once traversed by a man on a raft, and he had such a terrific time getting through that he called it Hell Gate, and the name has stuck to it ever since. Bear Gulch and Ferns county, named in a peculiar way. Two miners had been working in the gulch and one of them went to Pioneer for supplies. During his absence his partner was loading and did not return till after dark. On returning he saw what he supposed was his partner lying in his bunk, and as he made to reply on being called, he thought he must be drunk, as it was a falling of his partner's. He got a linen and went to bed without striking a light. For the reason that he had none next morning about 4 o'clock he heard an unusual racket in the cabin, and pulling the blanket door aside to admit the light, discovered an immense bear tearing around with a camp kettle elevated high on its head, like a cat with its head in a cream jar. He seized his gun and shot the animal dead. The bear had been eating venison from the kitchen, and he was so fat that he could not get up the stairs. John L. McCall, who once killed a man in the streets of Helena and afterwards secured a pardon, shot a bear in the same way. He was so fat that he could not get up the stairs. His partner could not tell how he came by his death, so he was dead, and no one was there to witness the tragedy. John Cowan, Wild

Bailey and others were out prospecting in this section of the country in 1864. It was getting late in the fall and they were about ready to start back to Alder gulch. But in crossing the creek near where the motor stops to take on passengers for the Broadwater hotel, the country was a little prospecting, and John Cowan remarked: "This is the last chance, boys; if we don't strike it here we'll go back to old Alder." They struck it, and named the camp Last Chance.

Grizzly gulch, the southwest fork of Lost Chance, was so named from a peculiar circumstance. Two miners had found good prospects, and securing a whip-saw, they sawed out enough lumber for staves, and went to work washing the gravel. They made a two days' run and intended to clean up on the evening of the third day. But in getting up about daylight on the morning of the third day, they discovered what they took to be a man robbing the sluices. At any rate he was monkeying around the sluices, which at that hour of the morning was a very suspicious circumstance, and without further ado one of the miners seized his gun, and taking the best aim he could in the dim light, fired. There was a terrific boom and the two rushed out to the spot occupied by the sluice robber and were greatly surprised to find a huge grizzly bear breathing his last. From that day the name of Grizzly gulch was forever established. Oro Fino is a Spanish word, meaning fine gold. Greenhorn gulch was discovered by a pilgrim. Crazy mountains were thus called by the Indians, on account of the winds that prevail there. Paperstone, a stream in Jefferson county, noted for its hot springs, was so called from a peculiar clay found there out of which the Indians made pipes. The town of Dillon was named after Sidney Dillon, the railroad magnate and millionaire, of New York, as Billings, on the Northern Pacific, was named after Joshua Billings, of New Jersey.

Rocky gulch, a place where placer gold was washed out by the rocky process. Pompey's Pillar is a rock in the Yellowstone river. It was discovered and named by Capt. Clark, who descended the river in boats made out of such material as could be found on its banks on his return from the Pacific coast. He carried his name in the stone at the time of discovery, and some men who saw it as late as 1876, said the letters were still plainly to be seen. The name of Idaho, according to a man named C. C. Cole, was derived from the following circumstance. The story was related in New York City some years ago: One bright morning about 10 o'clock, in company with another gentleman interested in the government of the territory, while riding over some barren mountain tops, or rather hills, the road became so rough as to compel the slowest traveling. As they plodded on the name of the new state became a topic for conversation. While talking over the various names that had been suggested they came to the top of a small plateau, on the farther edge of which stood an Indian hotel or cabin. The utter loneliness of the spot suggested to the travelers they had come upon the hiding place of some outlaw, of whom the country then boasted a great number. Just before they reached, but while in plain view from the cabin an Indian woman came out and called out several times in a high-pitched, far-reaching voice the word Idaho. The tone was a combination of those of the Swiss yodeler, the Spanish Indian, and Louisiana negress, and as was supposed, a call to the square a husband. The sound of the voice as given by Mr. Cole, and he had been familiar with the Indians for some years, was Le-doh-hoo-oo-oo-oo—a drop from the first syllable, a long a, almost as if ah-ah, and a musical, long-drawn-out dwelling upon the hoo, using the full force of the lungs in expiration and in crescendo. The squaw's call was answered by the sudden appearance of an Indian girl about 15 years of age. She was clean and better looking than most of her race. The inference of both Mr. Cole and his companion was that Idaho was the girl's name, and the idea of adopting it as the name of the new state occurred to both men at about the same time, Mr. Cole claiming to be the first to speak.

All efforts to find the English of the word resulted in failure; and finally, in consideration of the sex and surroundings of the Indian whose name had helped to solve the difficulty in finding one for the state, that of Gem of the Mountains was decided upon. The real meaning of the word Mr. Cole never knew. As the Indians name their children from physical peculiarities or circumstances occurring at birth, and as the child was born about daylight, the translation of Light on the Mountains was first decided on, but its fitness as a name for the state had to give way to the more appropriate one of Gem of the Mountains, which was given to congress as the translation of the Indian word.

J. P. Porter has gone on a short visit to Denver. Wm. Math and A. J. Davidson are paying a flying visit to Spokane Falls. Dr. Fox, auditor of the Rocky Fork railroad, left for Livingston yesterday evening. A. J. Merritt, chief engineer of the Rocky Fork railroad, left for Livingston yesterday evening. Editor John B. Reed and United States Marshal George W. Irvine came over 14 an Butte last evening. James A. Murray and his bride, formerly Miss Montgomery, of Louisville, Ky., will return to Butte to-day. F. H. Ervin, of Upper Basin, went to East Helena yesterday to attend to the sampling of a shipment of ore which is being received at the smelter. Miss Lulu Hoffman, daughter of F. H. Hoffman, of Butte, is spending the Christmas holidays with Mrs. D. G. Berlin, on Fifth avenue. Horatio O'Brien, for a number of years manager and proprietor of the Merchant's hotel, returned from the Pacific coast a few days ago, and will spend a week in the capital during the holidays. "Boss" has pitched his tent at Anacostes Ship Harbor, state of Washington, a place which, he declares, will be heard from at no distant day. Mrs. W. J. Penrose, accompanied by her little daughter, Maudie, will leave New York on the 1st for Helena, where she will remain with her husband, W. J. Penrose, the popular member of the lower house from Silver Bow, during the session of the legislature. She has been in delicate health for the past year, but is now fully recovered, and will be welcomed on her return by a host of friends.

WESTERN WATER MONOPOLY.

An Eastern Writer's Views on the Way Local Companies Do Business.

The laws of the western states, and territories everywhere recognize and protect the rights of the first or "prior appropriator" of water. If the first settler on the banks of a stream draws off, in his ditch, one-half or the whole of the customary flow to irrigate his farm, he has the right to take this one-half or the whole flow forever, to the entire exclusion of any subsequent settler. But the same rule applies to rivers of large size. As the quick-witted westerner stands by the side of one of the great rivers and looks over thousands of acres of desert land along its banks, he sees a fortune in the situation. Only get capital enough together, organize a great company, dig an immense canal which will "appropriate" all the water in the river, and you command the whole valley. It is the position of the western railroads repeated. Instead of waiting for settlers to come and dig little ditches, they need them, an immense capital digs one huge canal watering thousands of farms, and then draws settlers by advertisement and boom. So all over the west, throughout Colorado, in central and southern California, in Montana and Idaho, on the Salt and Gila rivers in southern Arizona, there are great companies with capitals running into the millions, putting this idea into effect. The canals they dig are twenty, thirty or even fifty miles long. The largest are a hundred feet wide and ten feet deep, very rivers in themselves. They follow the contour of the country, running back farther and farther from the river as the latter falls away. The main canal gives off lateral branches at frequent intervals, and by an ingenious system of gates, crossings and ditches sends water to every foot of arable ground between it and the river. The land belongs to the government and is taken up by individual settlers at merely nominal prices under the "Desert Land Act." But the water belongs to the canal company, and it is this water that the settler really pays for. From "Water Storage in the West," by Walter Gillette Bates in January Scribner.

MAKING A FIRE.

One of the Household Duties in Which Young Wives Are Deficient.

When about to light a fire with paper and split wood for kindlings, unfold and tear the paper and twist it lightly into coils or ropes, like clothes wrung out by hand. Put on the bottom of the grate four or five coils, about as long as the fire-box, and then stack the kindling-wood around the coils, leaving air-spaces between the sticks, and lay several larger pieces of wood across the top. A sprinkling of coal may be added, but unless the stove has an exceptionally good draft, disappointment will be obviated by letting the wood get well ablaze before adding coal. Always attend to the dampers and drafts before setting a match to the kindling. If the draft be too strong, close the damper out before it is applied, close the oven damper until the lighter kindlings have caught. It will save some delay to light a good-sized twist of paper and put it under the grate, and another on top of the fuel, and start the fire in that way. Never fill the stove or range with coal above the level of the fire-box. It is not only extravagant and wasteful of fuel to do so, but it is ruinous to the top plates, which will be superfluous unnecessarily. No good cooking can be done over a furious fire or on a red-hot stove. To fill the stove so that the covers must be crowded down is not the way to treat a stove.

WILL-O'-THE-WISP AT HOME.

An Interesting Experiment for Evening Entertainment.

The natural phenomenon of Jack-a-Lantern or Will-o'-the-Wisp can be produced by very simple means on a small scale. It is, as most people know, the effect of hydro-carbon gas generated by decomposing organic matter in a marsh and in a state of combustion. If we take an open-mouthed glass jar and put some baking soda in the bottom, then pour diluted sulphuric acid, or muriatic acid, or even strong vinegar over it, the jar fills with carbonic acid gas. A lighted candle may then be carefully lowered into the jar until the flame goes out, leaving the top of the flame still burning on the surface of the invisible gas. The flame is fed by the gases ascending from the smoldering wick. The effect only lasts a short time, but it can be renewed by raising up the candle till the wick relights, then lowering it again as before. The experiment can also be performed with a gas jet, but in this case the parallel is not so complete, for the gas does not escape by its decomposition on the spot. It is necessary that the air of the room should be very still for the experiment to be successful.

A BOISE BOY IN THE EAST.

He Is Smitten on a Yankee Girl, Elopes and Marries Her.

Richard H. Johnson, a Yale freshman aged 18 years, whose home is in Boise City, Idaho, has become one of the main actors in a romantic elopement that causes much comment in New Haven society circles, says a recent despatch. One day last September as Johnson was walking up Elm street he met pretty Kittie Ashdown, of No. 41 Dixwell avenue. It was with him a case of love at first sight, and he strived every way to obtain an introduction. He wished to marry Kittie at once, but she was coy, and pretended indifference. Then he began to pay particular attention to one of Kittie's girl friends. The ruse worked, and Kittie began trying to cut out her friend, and succeeded. Young Johnson and Kittie took the train for Wallingford last Sunday night, where they were married by a justice of the peace. Young Johnson has changed his boarding place. His young wife is living with her parents for the present. What action will be taken by the young husband's parents remains to be seen, as it is the duty of a student not to marry while passing through college. Young Johnson will be expelled, which may tend to complicate matters seriously at his home.

She Knighted Him With Her Golden Garter.

A commotion was caused in a car on one of the up trains of the Consolidated railroad yesterday, says a Hartford Conn. dispatch. A well-dressed lady had been sitting quietly in a seat next the aisle. Nothing in her conduct had excited special attention among the passengers. Suddenly she rose and quietly removed one of her garters, and jumping across the aisle slid it over the gentleman's wrist. Then striking a dramatic attitude she raised her arm and said solemnly: "You are now a Knight of the Golden Garter." The passengers were slow to recover from their stupefaction, and the principal actor was as serene as though knighted gentlemen with a "golden" garter was her only occupation. It is perhaps needless to say that she was mentally unbalanced.

Cloth and Other Jackets.

For ordinary wear the cloth jacket remains the most useful wrap between seasons. Made up in seersucker, in tight-fitting shape of last season, or in the new loose front shape introduced by Worth, it will continue in winter to be the most elegant and useful garment for young ladies. The close-fitting jackets are severely plain with a high straight collar and full sleeves. The garment is looked down from without buttons, and the plain sleeve has no cuff. The New York "Star" to Be Sold. The New York "Star" to be sold soon, and it is reported that the prospective purchasers propose to change the name to the Democrat and offer the editorship to Amos J. Cummings with \$10,000 salary and 16 per cent. of the profits.

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NORTH GREAT FALLS!

The Coming Manufacturing Town of the Northwest! Situated on an Elevated Plateau North of the Missouri river, opposite Black Eagle Falls. This town has just been laid off and Platted into Lots, which are now offered at exceedingly Moderate Prices. It joins the grounds of the Boston and Montana Company, on which will be erected their immense plant for their Smelter, Refinery and Copper Manufacturing. These works will give constant employment to thousands of men, and constitute a permanent source of prosperity for the town of North Great Falls. The town is situated that it will derive great and increasing benefits from the numerous factories that will seek the great water power at this point on the Missouri river. It is surrounded by a magnificent agricultural region. Coal and Iron are found in abundant quantities within a few miles. The completion of the Nelhart branch, now under construction, will within a few months, connect this town with the rich mineral fields of the Nelhart and neighboring districts, and the extension of the Manitoba railroad will speedily render the Cour d'Alene region tributary to North Great Falls. An immense dam across the Missouri opposite North Great Falls will be completed by September next, at an approximate cost of \$500,000, giving in its construction employment for a large number of men, and rendering available an immense water power. The workshops of the Boston and Montana Company, to be built during the coming season, will give employment to a small army of men and be the cause of an expenditure approaching a million dollars. To complete the dam and the workshops by the time contemplated will necessitate covering the ground with workmen from the beginning of February next for the balance of the season of 1890. Desirable Residence Lots for sale at \$100, \$200 and \$300. Business Lots at \$500. Terms: One Half down, balance one and two years. MATHESON & STEELE, 129 1-2 North Main Street.