

partment made provision for a supply of seed for the coming year by an appropriation of \$30,000. I cannot adequately express the idea of the benefit and encouragement which were thus bestowed upon a people who were almost left without hope. A correspondent, in acknowledging the receipt of seed sent him, says: "The seed is most acceptable, for it relieves me from a state of hopelessness; but it cannot do me half as much good as it does to know that we have a Government that cares for her distressed people."

JOHN DANA, of California, is the discoverer of a new and valuable bean. It made its appearance in his garden two years ago, and attracted attention from its valuable edible quality as a green or string bean, and its remarkable productiveness. It is a climber on the Lima variety, but differing from it in having a pod more rounded and thicker. The bean is white and about the size of a butter bean, and quite as delicate in flavor as the Lima. Last spring the plant threw up sprouts from the root, and he dug around it, giving it ordinary cultivation during the season, and was rewarded with sufficient from this one plant to supply his table with string beans during the season. This is, no doubt, an entirely new variety. Mr. Dana will give the choice plant good culture during the coming season and save all the crop for seed.

Rocky Mountain Husbandman.

R. N. SUTHERLIN, Editor.

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 23, 1875.

It is a little surprising how fast the business of wool-growing is gaining in favor with our people. Only a few years ago it was comparatively unknown; but a few experiments have proved so successful, that now it is the most popular branch of business in Montana. Our wool product will soon be an important item in the summing up of our resources. The wool-growers of the Pacific slope are just beginning to learn of the free and unequalled pasturage to be found in our Territory, and another season will find immense flocks of sheep being driven in. We will be glad to see them come. The wool-growers of the Pacific coast will find a good home here, and will find pastures that, if properly cared for, will improve every year. Here their flocks, when once healed of the diseases peculiar to the section from whence they came, will remain healthy. We are personally acquainted with a number of persons who have large flocks in California, who intend driving here next season. Something, no doubt, depends upon how the sheep that were driven in this season winter. Should the fatality from the change of climate be small, we will most likely, have a large increase. To expect to drive sheep from such a climate as California to this, drive them hard, bring them in poor, and not loose any, would be absurd. But if sheep are started early and be allowed to take their time, there will be as little loss as there would had they remained in their native climate.

We are glad to see our miners investing in sheep. It looks like permanency. It looks as though they meant to identify themselves with the country, and rise or fall with it. They have been long with us, delved faithfully in our mines, and we are satisfied they cannot invest their hard earnings in a more profitable business. It is better than two per cent. per month. The man who has a few hundred head of ewes and a few good breed rams, can, in a few years, become rich. With ordinary management and reasonable good fortune, he can hardly fail to get rich. It is a sure road to fortune, and all who engage in it with anything of a reasonable start, may, if they will only exercise common business tact and ordinary economy, promise themselves a life of comparative ease.

Our Territorial Legislature will convene at Helena, in a short time, and in view of this fact, the people should be alive to their interests. There are many important subjects which require serious and careful attention. But, as a general rule, we have too much legislation, and now, though some is actually necessary, it would be far better that we have none at all, than that the busi-

ness be overdone. The tax payers of the Territory should give their representatives to understand what they expect at their hands, and hold them accountable for their acts. We have confidence in the wisdom and ability of the representatives of Meagher County. Wm. Tierney and Dr. L. Rotwit, members of the lower house, are engaged in merchandising—the former at Canton, the latter at Canyon Ferry. Both of these gentlemen enjoy the full confidence of the respective communities in which they live, and will, we believe, perform the duties devolving upon them in a creditable and praiseworthy manner. James Hornbuckle, member of the Council, represents our mining and agricultural interests, being himself largely engaged in mining and wool-growing. Mr. H. is a man of great resolution, a good reasoner, and of sound judgment; a man who cannot be overruled by sophistry, and who cannot be induced to barter the interests of his constituents for money. With such men as these to represent the interests of the County, we hope for good results. If other counties have been as fortunate in selecting representatives, we have reason to believe that the interests of our Territory will be greatly advanced by the coming session.

The Territory, at present, is in a prosperous condition; is advancing slowly and steadily towards wealth and importance, and all that is needed to insure its being, in the near future, one of the most prosperous of States, is wise and judicious legislation. Every interest should be considered, and every point carefully guarded, keeping ever in view the fact that too much legislation is worse than none at all.

In another column will be found an article upon the Hellebore, one of the most ancient and valuable plants of which we have an account. We clipped it from the *Rural New Yorker*, but by an oversight, neglected to give the proper credit.

TERRITORIAL NEWS.

From the Montanian.

A letter received in this city says Mr. Jno. B. Hunter, who will be remembered as the party who was purchasing cattle in this Territory last summer for the purpose of driving them to Eastern markets, has arrived at his home in Greenville, Ill., and that his speculation was a perfect success. Mr. Hunter is expected to revisit Montana in the spring on a similar venture, and horses and teams have been left behind to be in readiness for next season's operations. We are glad to note that Mr. Hunter has succeeded in this speculation and that his profits therefrom, though not large, were sufficient to warrant his continuance of the business. The demonstration of the fact that Montana beef—even with the present mode of transportation—can be conveyed to Eastern markets and a profit realized upon the transaction, will be an incentive to other parties to engage in the business, and an impetus will be given to our stock-raising interests which cannot fail to have a beneficial effect upon the progress and enhance the prosperity of the Territory. We believe that it is no idle boast that Montana possesses superior facilities for the prosecution of this business; that her stock ranges, under judicious management and control, will turn out as fine beef as can be raised in the stalls of the Eastern States, and the opening up of a market for this product is the one thing needed to make it an important and profitable enterprise. If it will pay to ship Montana beef East now, how much more will it yield to our revenues when the means of transportation are increased by railroad communication and carriage? This is not merely the driving of stock by the owners and selling them at prices upon which the assumed profits might be estimated at high or low figures, according to the imagination of the seller or the value he chooses to place upon his time and labor; but a case in which an Eastern capitalist brings his money to the Territory, collects his stock from our ranches, pays the cash for them, and takes them to foreign markets and there disposes of them, thus being enabled to compute his gains to the smallest fraction of per centage, and establishing a rule for the conduct of future transactions. We think the importance of Mr. Hunter's success cannot be over-estimated, and that its consummation will open up a new era of prosperity for the stock-

growers of Montana. We shall be pleased to greet this enterprising gentleman on his return to Montana, and hope that his future speculations in this line of business may result even more advantageously than this one has done.

From the Helena Herald.

Rufus Johnson purchased of his brother, B. F. Johnson, a third interest in his mining ground at Snow Shoe, known as the Hydraulic Claim, for the sum of \$9,000. Mr. Johnson leaves for the States in a short time. It is reported that his mine netted \$40,000 the past season.

"Mac," the U. S. Indian prisoner, is lying at the Sisters' Hospital in a critical condition. His leg (shot through the knee) is literally rotting off, and he persistently refuses to allow the limb to be amputated, although advised by his physicians nearly three weeks ago that the operation would have to be performed to save his life. Amputation now would not save him.

The first term of the Helena graded school will begin on Monday, January 3d, 1876, and close on Friday, July 14th. The dedication of the elegant and commodious school building will take place on the 1st prox., with appropriate ceremonies.

Mr. John Oaks arrived yesterday from Hellgate with a load of corn meal from corn grown on his splendid farm, six miles above Canyon Ferry.

A band of antelope, numbering about 600, appeared in the Prickly Pear Valley on the 15th. In the afternoon fifteen of our Nimrods went down to slaughter them. The score stood, 2 for Dr. Ingersol, 1 for Col. Woolfolk, and 1 for Sam Hauser, which is still at large, not having been captured at last accounts.

Wm. Jack, of the hardware house of Kinna & Jack, recently paid a visit to those thriving and promising mining camps, Phillipsburg and Butte city. Of the former he says that the Northwest company have completed their 10-stamp mill, and on Monday Dec. 12th had steam up for the first time. It will be in full blast by the 25th inst. Six hundred tons of high grade ore from their mine—the Trout—is on the dump, which is sufficient to keep the mill running for several months. The Hope Mining Company will also have their mill completed and running within a few weeks, or just as soon as the additional machinery needed can be shipped from the Helena foundry. During the trip Mr. Jack also visited Butte city, the thriving "Silverado" of Deer Lodge county. The two mills now being built—the How and Farlin—will soon be in operation; probably by the first of January. The town has a population of about 500 which appears to be increasing all the while. Upwards of 150 houses have been built within the past four months.

From the Avant Courier.

From the *Courier*, we learn that the question of the navigation of the Yellowstone, and opening of transportation from Bozeman to the East has been settled upon. Mr. Story, of that place, has telegraphed his partner, Dr. Lanme, who is now in the East, to purchase, or have built, a suitable boat for the contemplated trade.

GENERAL NEWS.

From dispatches dated London, Dec. 11th, we learn that the recent disaster at Bremen, by which the lives of fifty persons were lost, was caused by an explosion at the wharf, and not by the boiler of a steam tug, as was first reported.

The English police are searching for Charley Ross among the gypsies of that country.

The number of hogs packed in Chicago, from Nov. 1st to Dec. 4, was 449,097, against 628,969 in a corresponding time in 1874, and 639,447 in 1873. The closing rates for hogs on Saturday, Dec. 11th, were \$6.75; cattle, \$6.25; sheep, \$4.25.

A special telegram to the *London Daily News*, from Alexandria, says the Abyssinians surprised and killed a body of 1,200 Egyptians, including seventeen officers.

Commodore Vanderbilt has recently donated an additional \$100,000 to the Vanderbilt University, at Nashville, Tenn., which makes \$700,000 in all.

The prospects for the extension of the Northern Pacific next year, are reported very favorable. The present bondholders and their immediate friends will extend it at least twenty-five miles. This is necessary in order to save the charter. The company

do not intend to ask aid of the present Congress, and there is no danger that aid will be thrust upon them, though there is said to be a growing feeling of friendship towards the road in the east.

The Centennial Committee on Opening Ceremonies have selected Wm. M. Evarts for Orator, H. W. Longfellow for Poet, and a grandson of Richard H. Lee, of Virginia, for Reader of the Declaration of Independence.

A diamond, said to be the largest in the world, found at the Cape of Good Hope, southern Africa, and weighing 107 carats, is in the museum of Col. J. H. Wood, Philadelphia.

A bill was introduced in Congress last week, relating to postage on mailable matter of the 3d class. It provides that from the first of January, 1876, the postage on pamphlets, transient newspapers, magazines, periodicals, handbills, posters, unsealed circulars, proof-sheets, and corrected proof-sheets shall be one cent for every two ounces or fraction thereof; and that the postage on other mailable matter remain the same as it is now.

Secretary of War, Belknap, gives the expenditures of the War Department during the last fiscal year at \$11,273,275, a decrease of over \$1,000,000 from the previous year. He reports that 1,757,108 rations were issued to sufferers from the ravages of grasshoppers in Minnesota, Nebraska, Iowa, Kansas, Dakota and Colorado.

Hon. Ira Harris, ex-United States Senator from New York, died in Albany, on Thursday of last week, aged 73.

Secretary of the Treasury, Bristow's estimates of the expenses of the Government for the fiscal year ending June 30th, 1875, are \$314,612,608.

Arrangements have been made by the U. S. Treasury Department for the sale, Dec. 30, of lands in Beaufort Co., S. C., held by the United States for direct taxes. These tracts comprise several thousand acres of Sea Island cotton land.

Prof. Douglas, of the Michigan State University, charges Prof. P. B. Rose, of the same institution, with embezzling nearly \$5,000 of the University funds. Prof. Rose says it is not true.

It is reported that the Milwaukee whisky ring will be shown, in the pending trials, to have been, in importance and extent of operations second only to that of St. Louis.

Arrangements have been completed by the Baltimore & Ohio railroad for a new line of steamers to run between Baltimore and Liverpool, and to be especially designed for carrying grain.

On account of troubles in the American colonies in Africa, the President has ordered a man of war to that coast. They grew out of Englishmen supplying slave-traders with war material.

It has been estimated by parties in Milwaukee that the operators in the recent grain corner lost \$80,000, on No. 2 wheat.

A special telegram from Madrid to the *London Daily News* says: The Spanish note to the United States promises gradual emancipation; increased freedom of conscience; that foreigners when arrested shall have immediate hearing; that legal redress shall be obtainable for past injuries. Great anxiety exists in Madrid regarding the reception to the note in Washington. The note is Spain's ultimatum.

The Hudson River railroad, for six miles north of the Grand Central Depot in New York, is managed by a system of electric signals, so perfect that no collision or delay can take place so long as engineers observe the signals.

Judge Waite positively refuses to be a candidate for the Presidency.

There were 8,827,810 pounds of butter, and 1,240,610 pounds of cheese made in Kansas last year.

The official canvass shows that the Constitutional Convention of Colorado will consist of twenty-four Republicans and fifteen Democrats.

The Virginia, Nev. papers now estimate the loss by the recent fire at \$10,000,000. Insured for \$2,500,000. This is largely in excess of the first estimate.

The Canadian Minister of Agriculture is busily engaged in arranging forms and details for the proper distribution of seed grain purchased by the Government of the Dominion for the sufferers by the grasshopper visitation in Manitoba.