

## Rocky Mountain Husbandman.

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IT IS WELL, no doubt, for the world, that men differ in opinion, for it is only by discussion and the comparison of views that correct conclusions are arrived at. Discussion for such purposes, is wise and prudent, but it is useless to try to convince any person against his will. Hence we shall not attempt to convert the *Missoulian* to our way of thinking; but we are here to defend the interests we advocate from any and all attacks—to stand sentinel upon the tower and give the alarm when the omens please us not, and if need be, do battle in their cause. We are glad our friend has been so frank as to admit the major part of our proposition, but he errs greatly if he thinks that business co-operation among the farmers is a failure; in proof of this we need but refer him to our correspondence signed "Sy," which we published last week.

As to the price of sewing machines, that was reduced before the expiration of the patents. But we merely cited this because most familiar. We might have enumerated hundreds of articles. Mowers, reapers, threshers, and nearly every other agricultural implement, has been reduced in price to the farmer, while the manufacturer realizes the same profit as before. Our logical friend will do well to guess again. And perhaps, he would do well to inquire of his neighbors as to how they are succeeding, before making such seemingly astounding assertions.

There is a disposition on the part of some newspapers to create a feeling of antagonism between all other classes and the farmers, and especially those who are members of the order of Patrons of Husbandry. They insinuate that the Order is composed of croakers and grumblers, whose chief merit is to complain of their grievances. But the truth is, it is composed of the very best farmers in America. It is a condition which they have been forced to accept through necessity. All other classes were organized, and consequently they were compelled to take this step to protect their interests. And in their organized capacity, are quietly pursuing their vocations without any attempt to regulate the business of others. They are not attempting to infringe upon the rights and privileges of any other class, and are satisfied with preventing other classes from infringing upon their rights.

If they make a mistake, they alone will suffer for it. While they will no doubt thank their well wishers for their good advice, it is certainly their prerogative to accept it or not as they think proper.

THE people of Helena are kind, courteous and attentive to the Legislators and throng of visitors in their midst. We had the pleasure of attending one of the *soirees* of the Pioneer Club. The hall was spacious, music excellent, ladies abundant and exceedingly bewitching, and joy intense. We were almost captivated by the charms of city life. For while it is honorable and all that to be from the rural districts, it is pleasant enough to be a city gent.

Monday morning we took the coach for Radersburg. It was rather an airy berth on the boot of the coach, but we always liked the open air, and this time it was both choice and necessary, as the inside was full. It was quite cold—about 22° below—but our fellow travelers were each well provided with a "spirit thermometer," and although as the day advanced the spirits continued to go down, until they were imperceptible, still our party were kept warm with mirth and merriment. On leaving the dinner station, our little party took possession of the coach and elected us to hold the strings, but at the same time signified to our good-natured driver that we meant no offense, but were merely out on a little North Pacific tear. We really believe that the coach was drunk, from the way it tottered from side to side, but it kept on its wheels and our team on the go. The essence of corn and rye stirring the souls of our passengers, swelled forth in the merriment of song as we jostled along.

We reached Radersburg in due time. F. B. Clark's teams are fat and always make it on time. Radersburg, the county seat of Jefferson county, is well located at the head of Crow creek valley, in a rather cozy, shel-

tered situation, but like most of the mining towns, its glory has begun to wane. There is still a good business done here. The town consists of several stores, two or three saloons, a livery stable, blacksmith shop, two good hotels, and quite a number of neat private residences; also, a fine court house, school house, and a well conducted school of twenty-five or thirty scholars; also, an interesting Sabbath school. Radersburg is situated favorably to become a place of considerable importance. A broad, fertile valley on one side, and a rich region of mines of silver and gold on the other, and situated on a great thoroughfare between Montana's eastern Metropolis and the Capital. A brighter future, no doubt, is in store for it than is to-day anticipated.

Tuesday we loitered about town, calling on old time friends, and Wednesday, returned to Helena. We found the city, upon our return, in a fever of excitement upon the railroad subject. A large delegation had just arrived from Bozeman hot for the North Pacific. But strange to say, a number of Helena's wildest railroad fanatics, who but a few short months ago, cried "railroad we must have regardless of cost or consequences," were off on economy and reform, making long arguments about bankruptcy, endless taxation, and the woe and misery which would be entailed upon our people by loaning our credit to the railroad. "O! consistency, thou art a jewel!" The little circle with its narrow gauge, and an outright million and a half subsidy, is growing beautifully less. We agree with our narrow gauge friends as to the danger attending the dealing with corporations; the lamentable effect often produced; the taxation, etc., that threatens. If the North Pacific proposition be a steal, it will bankrupt the country. Voting a million and a half to the Utah Northern could not do less. Therefore, let us invest where there is a show to get our money's worth, and where there is a possibility of escaping the dire calamity referred to. We believe that the North Pacific has friends enough, provided the Governor's signature can be secured—that is, should the interests of the people be properly guarded—to secure aid for it.

Friday morning we took the coach, and before the sun had reached the snowy peaks of the western range, were at home. This demonstrated the fact that P. B. Clark's line is a first-class one, making as good time as in summer.

In referring to the spirit of the Territorial press upon the proposition of the Northern Pacific Railroad, the *Bozeman Times* says: "The HUSBANDMAN, claiming for itself the special organship of the Grangers of Montana, throws cold water upon the project." We supposed the *Times* understood plain English, but from the above our readers will naturally be inclined to decide to the contrary. If the revelation of facts regarding the frauds that have been perpetrated upon the people by railroad companies, assisted by corrupt legislators, has anything to do with the North Pacific proposition, it is more than we were aware of. Should the North Pacific representatives have taken exception to our words of warning, while we had the charity to accord to them honesty of purpose, we should have had doubts—for honesty does not care to be properly restrained, and theft needs to be.

In making a trade it is the privilege of both parties to do the very best they can, and few men will declare their readiness to accept a bargain when the party with whom they are dealing indicate a willingness to do better. We did not jump at the proposition of the North Pacific, because they plainly stated it was not an ultimatum. We do not retract a single sentence. History raises its warning voice to the people, saying, beware of railroad companies! They are powerful monied corporations. They have controlled our halls of legislation and have traduced our tribunals of justice. It is almost impossible to get a decision from the Bench that is not colored by their influence, and to sit quietly by and allow a people to tie their own hands, without parading these facts before their understanding, is worse than criminal.

We declared ourselves plainly in favor of extending aid to the North Pacific; provided, suitable safeguards be thrown around the interests of the people, to ensure them what they expect from the proposition, and

what the railroad company hold out that they shall receive. Like propositions heretofore have always been fair upon their face, but in the cunningness of their construction the fatal trap has been laid. These things are purely business transactions in which both parties are equally concerned, and should either get the best of it, it is considered legitimate. Hence, the necessity of being cautious in guarding our interests.

It is generally understood that the farmers, and the farmers' movement, are opposed to railroads, but such is not necessarily the case. They are antagonistic to wholesale plunder and high-handed robbery of which some railroads are guilty. And, although we accord to the North Pacific honesty of purpose and uprightness in dealing, it is well to remember the words, "lead us not into temptation," and leave no hinge or loop to hang doubt upon—no weak points which will subject us solely to the honesty of the company and their successors.

There is not a man in Montana who has her dearest interest at heart, but will hail with joy the resumption of work upon the North Pacific, and but few who are not willing to extend any aid that we reasonably can, to assist. And, while we think that this can and will be done and shall lend our aid to it to such an extent as we deem wise and prudent for the Territory, we will not shut our eyes to the lessons of experience, nor in wild enthusiasm for results to be attained by the carrying of the project to success, forget the disaster to which a failure to comply with the stipulations would subject us.

We have an abiding faith in this great highway from the great lakes to the Pacific, and also in the rich agricultural and mineral region through which it will pass. Let it but start forward again, and the strong arm of Civilization from Montana will go forth to meet it. The country along its line will stir with life and activity, and their immense land grant be to them a source of untold wealth.

LAST week we gave an account of what we thought to be a large calf, but from the following it will be seen that a Marylander has beaten us by several pounds:

The Frederick (Md.) *Examiner* says: "Mr. Ezra Houck, Jr., residing about two miles northeast of this city, near Worman's Mills, has a cow that lately gave birth to a calf which weighed, when ten hours old, 180 pounds."

## LIST OF LAWS ENACTED THIS SESSION.

Our correspondent at Helena furnishes us with the following enactments that become laws before and including January 25th, 1876:

- C. B. 7.—Fixing the pay of County Commissioners at six dollars per day on Contingent Fund, and ten cents per mile mileage.
- C. B. 12.—The Cullen Printing Bill.
- C. B. 14.—Provides for the redemption of the funded debt of Missoula county, and for the payment of the interest on their bonds.
- H. B. 17.—Authorizing the transfer of the surplus money of one fund to another, except school fund.
- H. B. 18.—Repeals the law authorizing the Auditor to cause to be printed 500 copies of the Auditor and Treasurer's report at the expense of the Territory.
- H. B. 19.—Provides for the payment of the entire indebtedness of Missoula county. This is the same law that was enacted several years ago in the State of Nevada for Storey, Humboldt and other counties.
- H. B. 29.—This repeals the law requiring counties to pay costs in divorce cases, where the woman is unable to pay the same, but allows her to prosecute her action without costs.

Contracts for public printing made to date are:

Territory and Lewis and Clark county.....	Independent
Deer Lodge county.....	New North-West
Madison and Beaverhead counties.....	Madisonian
Meagher county.....	Husbandman
Gallatin county.....	Bozeman Times
—New North-West.	

## GENERAL NEWS.

The Turks have been compelled to retreat. The West St. Louis Savings Bank has failed.

A destructive fire is reported from Montgomery, Alabama.

It is reported that the entire South will refuse to participate in the centennial.

Carlisle are concentrating their disorganized forces in the Bas Pyrenes.

The legislature of New Jersey has refused to tax church property.

Two hundred and twenty thousand dollars has been subscribed to the Lee Monument Fund.

Forty thousand pounds went into the Bank of England on balance day.

Lena Edwards, the actress, is to marry a son of ex-Governor Hoffman, of New York.

Mr. Windom, from the Senate Committee on Transportation reports in favor of improving the Upper Missouri.

Montana Indian agencies are to be placed under the exclusive direction of general Gibbon.

Charles O'Connor is rapidly regaining his health, and now able to ride out.

An attempt was made to rob the night express going east from Chicago on the night of January 26th. The car contained \$270,000 in currency, and over \$125,000 in bullion.

In the recent North Hampton bank robbery, \$670,000 in securities were taken, most of which belonged to special depositors.

Johnathan Earle, Treasurer of the Norfolk and New Brunswick Hosiery Company, is a defaulter to the amount of \$142,000. He has turned over property and other securities sufficient to cover the defalcation, but the latter are not convertible at the present time.

War is imminent between Guatemala and San Salvador. Both countries are arming.

A government commission has been appointed to examine the Panama Railroad. Heavy suits for violation of contract have been commenced, and the Columbian Government threatens to demand abrogation of the contract.

Oliver A. Patton, Register of the Land Office at Salt Lake, and Gen. Maxwell, United States Marshal for Utah, are in Washington, trying to secure a revision of the jury law, by which polygamists shall be excluded from service as jurors. The President is said to sympathize with the movement.

The authorities of Massachusetts have telegraphed to Representatives Harris and Pierce at Washington, asking their influence with the Minister from Holland to induce him to have delivered to our Government the body of Winslow the fugitive \$600,000-forgery.

The \$1,500,000 Centennial appropriation is likely to pass the Senate.

On January 28, Adolphus Moore was fatally shot by Geo. W. Swepson, at Haw river, N. C.

H. H. Starkweather, representative from Connecticut, died in Washington on the morning of the 28th ult.

Prof. Seelye's proposition to transfer the control of the civilized Indians whose reservations are in the States to State governments meets the approval of the Indian Commission.

E. C. Watkins, U. S. Indian Inspector, has visited each of the capitals in the Indian Territory. He has seen leading men in each of the different nations, and reports the schools in a flourishing condition, with a good attendance of scholars.

A freight and passenger transportation line is to be put on between Fort Pierre, on the Missouri river, and the Black Hills mines, a distance of 100 miles.

A Chicago *Tribune* special from Lincoln, Neb., says that large bodies of men, bound for the Black Hills, are passing through every day.

A plan to rob the Adams Express Company has been discovered and thwarted in New York City.

Minnesota is petitioning Congress for an appropriation to improve the Red River of the North.

The eighth annual convention of the Woman's National Suffrage Association began at Washington, on the 29th ult.

The Secretary of the Treasury does not believe that the back interest can be collected from the Union Pacific railroad company.