

Rocky Mountain Husbandman.

R. N. SUTHERLIN, Editor.

THURSDAY, MARCH 16, 1876.

The first immigrants to Montana were a class of roving, gold-hungry fortune-hunters, who came here with the expectation of picking up a sufficiency in a few days and returning whence they came. Men of this class rushed hurriedly over the Territory—stayed only a few years, saw some of the richest and most convenient mines worked out, pronounced the country a failure, and passed on upon their search after easily acquired wealth. A few of the more sober-minded have remained and have been joined by a less-excitable class. They find it good to be here. There are a smaller number of able-bodied men in the Territory than formerly, yet the annual yield of gold has for several years been steadily increasing. Wages are somewhat reduced, but mining has settled into a business-like shape, and there are more men making a good living—a good support for families—making homesteads and amassing wealth than did when wages were from six to ten dollars per day, and money was plenty.

The miner of to-day has settled here with a view to making this his home. He has given up the old idea of getting rich in a day and rushing off to some other place in this big world to spend it. They have become permanent citizens who look to the welfare of the country. After years of patient toil, they are at last reaping the reward due—a harvest which the adventurer, gone before, never waits to enjoy.

The miserable shacks and shanties of early days are giving way to neat, comfortable dwellings. Churches begin to show their spires in the little towns, the hum of business which once marked the Sabbath above all other days is gradually giving way to the church and Sabbath-school, and in the largest of our towns and cities the deep-toned Sabbath bell summons the urchin from the street.

Road agents and vigilantes departed with the adventurer and are numbered with the things that were. Society, enjoyment, prosperity, peace, quiet happiness, and contentment, the general influences of civilization, are gathering about us.

TRAVELING among the farmers of Montana, we hear a great deal of complaint of dull times, the scarcity of money, etc. The fact is, to men who have always been accustomed to have ready money, times appear rather dull. But they all have plenty to eat. Their tables are well supplied with good, wholesome food. They are improving their farms, providing neat and comfortable dwellings and building barns and grainaries. In fact, everything goes to show that they are in a very prosperous condition. We admit that money is scarcer than it has been for several years. Our farmers have been scourged with grasshoppers for two successive years and many feel discouraged, yet the indications are that they are struggling on and receiving as great a reward for their labor as are any of their class in any part of the States. They are beginning to see the advantage of progression, and are turning their attention to the best breeds of stock, procuring the most improved labor-saving machinery, providing themselves with good teams, and are generally on a firmer financial basis than the farmers in any State in the Union. And taken as a mass, we believe they live as well, work as little, and make as much as any agricultural people, and for hospitality they cannot be excelled. The wayfaring man is never turned from their door hungry or thirsty. All are glad to do a kindness and share their rations with their fellow-man.

EDITORIAL CORRESPONDENCE.

GALLATIN VALLEY, March 2, 1876.

Monday morning we took a ramble down the East Gallatin, met a number of friends, among whom was Hon. A. B. Moore, were shown some large Chester White hogs and a large lot of poultry at H. C. Reding's. Mr. Reynolds assured us that his fall wheat was all right—the tops were killed, but the roots were alive and would put forth in the spring. He irrigated late in the fall. Mr. A. Cowan showed us some good young horses and mares. Forest Chief, his fine

blooded stallion, was looking well. Mr. C. is a thorough stock-man, has a large, two-story-frame barn and cares for his animals as a man should. He intends investing in sheep the coming summer. Mr. Fly treated us to a good, old-fashioned Missouri dinner. This gentleman is extensively engaged in stock-raising, has a neat dwelling, large barn, and a small flock of sheep which are in splendid condition and free from scab. The foot-hills in this vicinity furnish the best winter range to be found on the Valley, there being less snow. Having spent the day both pleasantly and profitably, we returned at night to the point of beginning.

Tuesday went up Reese creek. There are many fine farms in this section and some of the most fertile soil to be found in Montana. The winter wheat in this neighborhood promises well, notwithstanding there has been no snow to protect it. Towards evening we went up Spring Hill. This is a beautiful cove commanding a splendid view of the Valley, which stretches away to the west, while around to the southeast and north the mountains rise abrupt and sudden toward the clouds. The spring from which the place takes its name, gushes forth from a rugged mass of limestone pinnacles far up the mountain side, and rushes down a black, rocky canyon at the rate of two and a half feet to the rod. Before reaching its mouth, where the Valley begins to spread itself out, it is caught and utilized in six different powers within a half mile. The race required to receive a pressure of from 25 to 40 feet is less than 500 feet in length. There is between 1,000 and 1,700 inches of water, and the water never varies the half of a degree in temperature winter or summer. This is, indeed, one of the finest sites for a manufacturing depot we have ever seen. At present there is at this point a blacksmith-shop, saw-mill, distillery, planing-mill and rectifier. The distillery and rectifier are not in operation at present. This little community has a good school. The soil in the vicinity is good, and all appear to be enjoying a fair share of this world's blessings.

Wednesday we made a short circuit of some of the fine farms of East Gallatin and brought up at night at the ranch of Hon. W. O. P. Hays, on Reese creek, and attended a meeting of the Keystone Grange held that evening. This grange is in good working condition. A few of the members are inclined to be lukewarm, but the majority are more zealous than ever, and are taking hold of the questions of the hour with more determination than ever. They intend having a grange feast at their regular meeting in April.

WEST GALLATIN, March 6, 1876.

Thursday and Friday we perambulated among the farmers of East Gallatin, and on Friday night attended a ball at East Gallatin Grange hall which proved in every way completely satisfactory. Guests commenced to arrive before the sun went below the horizon and ere the sun had settled down upon the landscape, the hall was thronged with men and women eager for the dance. The music soon struck up and the dancing continued until daylight in the morning. There were eighty-one tickets sold. There were about about fifty ladies in attendance, some beautiful and bewitching in the extreme—all healthy and full of life and merriment that expressed itself in every movement as they danced and coquetted with the hardy, sun-browned sons of toil. All seemed to enjoy it hugely. The supper was splendid. We did not learn the amount of the net proceeds, yet it forms quite a good nucleus for a library fund. At 3 a. m., we left the scene of merry-making and went to the residence of Mr. John Furgison and enjoyed a few hours' rest. On the morning we proceeded up Middle creek to J. McCormick's, the Worthy Secretary of Bozeman Grange, and in the afternoon accompanied Mr. Mc. to Bozeman.

Bozeman is a beautifully-located town of several hundred inhabitants. It is situated at the foot of the mountains and at the head of Gallatin Valley, and is destined to become a city of commercial importance. Being in a commanding position the great streams of wealth to be produced by one of our most fertile valleys will naturally converge here. It is already the metropolis of Eastern Montana, a supply and outfitting post for the Yellowstone country, and is general-

ly conceded to be, at the present time, the cheapest retail market in the Territory.

On Saturday night attended a meeting of the Bozeman Grange. This grange has within the past year experienced quite a decline in membership, but the healthful condition of the body and the zeal of the remaining members is in nowise impaired. It has lost those who are good sailors only upon a smooth sea and under a fair wind, but who desert the helm and flee the ship in traverse winds and when the breakers roar. The meeting was indeed a pleasant one.

Sunday we returned to McCormick's ranch, mounted our horse and went up Middle creek. This is also a fine section of farming-land and is easily watered. There are many good farms in this neighborhood, and plenty of land not yet taken. We stopped over night with our friends, Chambers & Weaver, and treated our horse to the luxury of timothy hay, a crop of which is successfully raised here.

Monday we continued up the West Gallatin and paid a visit to the Worthy Master of the Territorial Grange, Hon. Brigham Reed. He has a good farm of 220 acres, located upon the west side of the river, just beneath the bluffs that run off in high, rolling plateaus for twenty miles westward, affording ample and excellent range. About one-half of the farm consists of meadow-land, the most of which produces a very superior quality of upland hay. He has also eight acres of timothy and one acre of orchard grass. The rest of the farm never fails to produce XXX wheat. His residence is low, comfortable, convenient and well-furnished. Mr. R. has been for a number of years engaged in a first-class dairy business but, having quit, intends giving his attention to the breeding of blooded stock. He intends to dispose of his present stock of common native breeds, and replace them with thoroughbreds and high-grades as fast as practicable.

Mr. Reed's is but one of the many No. 1 farms to be found on the West Gallatin. The soil is deep and black and produces abundant crops. Much of it does not require to be irrigated. Farmers here are generally thrifty and industrious and are provided with good dwellings. We are glad to say their social and educational interests enjoy a fair attention. There are two granges and two school-houses in this vicinity. We predict for this portion of the Valley a prosperous future. R. N. S.

TERRITORIAL NEWS.

From the Helena Herald.

Harry J. Norton has purchased in San Francisco a power-press and complete printing outfit, and shipped the same to Silver City, Nevada, where he purposes to start a daily and weekly paper in opposition to the Lyon County Times.

The sale of Lewis and Clark county bonds yesterday was not a success, only \$2,000 having been disposed of. The commissioners postponed the sale until some future time. Wm. Kinsely was the purchaser, at 90 cents.

Capt. Reese, Superintendent of the Jawbone mine, at St. Louis, arrived last night with a handsome gold brick, the result of a two-weeks' run. The brick was of the coin value of \$2,000; and the Captain turns one of them out every two weeks regularly.

The Commissioners think that the law does not contemplate that the County poor and insane should be cared for and medically treated by the same parties. This throws out all the bids but Smith's, Allen's, and the Sisters'. Smith has withdrawn his on the grounds of a misunderstanding about what the County should furnish. Allen's contemplates the County furnishing teams, farm-implements, etc., which it did not purpose to do. This leaves only the Sisters' bid, which the Commissioners think too high, but they have bargained with them privately on better terms, viz: Four of the insane at \$9 per week; the remainder to go in with the poor at \$6.50. Floyd Keating, one of the insane, is refused, as being from Gallatin county, unless decided to belong to this county by the Governor.

Mr. Ike Greenwood, accompanied by his family, left for Virginia City this morning, where they will permanently locate. Mr. Greenwood is an old resident of Helena, having lived here since 1865, and his many friends here will regret his departure. We

wish Ike success in his new enterprise, and hope he may get rich and be happy.

From the Missoulian.

The Fair Association held its annual election on Monday and put in the following Board of Trustees for the ensuing year: W. E. Bass, Joseph Pardee, C. S. Medary, F. L. Worden, W. J. McCormick, C. P. Higgins, A. G. England, Amos Buck, Anthony Chaffin. The trustees held a meeting after the election and chose the following officers: W. E. Bass, President; R. A. Eddy, Vice President; Alvin Lent, Secretary; Ferd. Kennett, Treasurer. The affairs of the Association have fallen into the hands of some of the best men we have in the county, and the prospects for a creditable fair this fall are very flattering.

From the New North-West.

Delegate Magnus has recently introduced in Congress a bill to promote education in the Territories, being the bill originally drawn and introduced in 1871, by Mr. Clagett; also a bill for the sale of timber lands in the Territories, the same as introduced some years ago. Both are good measures and should become laws.

Our readers will recollect some weeks since mention of very rich ore being taken from the Rucker lode owned by Nelson Wolverson and Charley Carver. Since then work has been prosecuted diligently, and more wonderfully rich ore has been taken out. The shaft has been sunk to the depth of 60 feet from which a level has been run 122 feet, and the lead is from six inches to three and a half feet wide. In running thirty feet every tub of rock showed free gold. One peice of the bed-rock yielded \$1 gold to one ounce of rock; an eight-ounce peice of rock showing no gold yielded \$3.00. They have now out 100 tons of ore, and are going to construct arrastras to crush it. Mr. E. L. Newell, millwright, who built the Centennial mill, will put up arrastras, and he and Mr. Carver are now in Helena to procure the castings, and the works are to be completed by April 1. The owners have no disposition to encourage any sensation about their mine. They own it, are working it, are going to construct their own facilities for reducing, and are contented to abide the results. But the general impression is they have a very rich lead.

From the Bozeman Times.

FORT ELLIS, March 3, 1876.

EDITOR TIMES.—A special of February 23, from the command, reports it camped at the mouth of Stillwater. It moves 24 miles per day. Two successful crossings were made of the Yellowstone. In addition to Capt. Hoppy and McCormick's citizen commands, Agent Clapp has joined the expedition with 26 Agency men.

The Crow chiefs, Tin Belly and Good Heart, joined the command on February, the 27th, with 47 warriors, and Bear Wolf and Crazy Head wait on the river to combine with their 150 Crows. They vow vengeance upon the Sioux for invading their reservation and occupying their buffalo grounds. They are ready to fight Sitting Bull.

The command will pass close to the Big and Little Horn Sioux camps, which will fight, and try to repeat the Baker and Custer affairs.

General Brislin marches rapidly and has over 4,000 men, all told, with him. He has the enthusiasm of the command.

No news from Fort Pease since February 15th.

All in good spirits and well.
Mail goes out to-morrow.

J. T. BOGERT.

Frank Murray, Deputy U. S. Marshall, and Ed. Fridley, have just arrived from the Fort Pease Expedition. The Expedition is, probably now at Pompey's Pillar.

From the Montanan.

On Friday evening, the 3d inst., John L. Corbett was arrested and brought before Probate Judge O. G. Smith, charged with assaulting C. W. Parker, on the night of February 28th, with intent to murder. The particulars of the assault have already appeared in the *Montanan*: Mrs. Parker, half-sister to Corbett, was also arrested, the charges against her, jointly with the male prisoner, embracing the crimes of incest and infanticide. The prisoners pleaded not guilty, and asked for a remand to enable them to procure counsel. Judge Smith remanded them until Saturday, the 11th inst., fixing the bail at \$4,000. The prisoners were unable to give the required sureties and were consigned to custody. Since writing the above, we have been informed that the female prisoner has made a confession, but of what nature we are at present unable to state.