

Rocky Mountain Husbandman.

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THE PROGRESS of the ROCKY MOUNTAIN HUSBANDMAN, although slow, has, like the interest it represents, been steadily onward and upward. The warm support extended to it all over Montana since the day of its introduction assures us that the people are fully alive to the necessity of an agricultural paper in the territory, and warrants us in the effort to place before them a journal second to none in the country.

We take pleasure in announcing to our friends that the time for enlargement is now near at hand. A large cylinder power press has been ordered from New York, and about the beginning of the next volume, or upon the arrival of the new press, the HUSBANDMAN will be enlarged to a forty-column paper and otherwise materially improved. We will also remove our office of publication to White Sulphur Springs, a point affording better facilities for a publishing house.

The publication of a live newspaper in Montana is attended with heavy expense at best, and this enlargement and change of base, which has become necessary to meet the demands of the public, entails a still greater outlay. Therefore, those in arrears for subscription are requested to be prepared to settle the same, that we may press on from venture to success.

BUT A FEW more weeks and the greatest equalizer of sections and civilizer of the wilderness known to modern times, the iron horse, will be pushed across the Montana line. The *North-West* proposes celebrating the event, and that the new-comer be greeted with a display of bunting and appropriate ceremonies throughout the territory. Whether greeted or ungreeted; heralded or unheralded; welcome or unwelcome, the coming of the road is inevitable and the fate of the territory is sealed. The great interval which has so long divided us from the rest of the world has been bridged over, and we will soon stand face to face with the busy marts of the world.

The advent of a railroad into any country has been closely followed by a flood of immigration, and it will be so with Montana. Let our people mark the fact. There are thousands of acres of fine agricultural lands on every valley, soon to undergo the yoke of the husbandman, and the products of our soil are soon to be introduced into other marts than our own. Shall these broad acres furnish homes for the hardy pioneers who have stayed by the fortunes of the struggling territory these many years and be owned and tilled by them, or will the golden opportunity be allowed to fade away as farm after farm and stock ranch after stock ranch is taken up? Those who would profit by their advantage of knowing the country will do well to make their choice of homesteads now. Every day the opportunities will grow less, and those who allow them to pass by unimproved will soon regret their short-sightedness.

ENGLAND seems to have a vast deal of trouble with her semi-civilized possessions. A short time ago the war in Afghanistan assumed mammoth proportions. The theater of interest changed to the wilds of South Africa, where Zululand was up in arms. The African difficulty is only partially settled and another war is brewing in Afghanistan, as will be seen from the dispatches.

A CONFERENCE of representatives from the various branches of the Protestant church is now holding its deliberations at the old Swiss church at Basle, Switzerland. Six years ago a great denominational congress assembled in New York, and the reassembling of such a body is looked upon as an important event in the history of Protestantism. The past six years has made sad inroads on the barriers of creeds and bigotry of former days, and so broadened

the way and brought about a feeling of liberality that there is some probability of the present session doing much good in closing up the ranks and bringing the church into closer unity.

AMONG THE FARMERS.

RUBY VALLEY

Above Lauraine, has many pleasant homes. It is probably two miles wide, and as far up as the canyon is a continual cluster of ripening grain fields. Oats is the principal crop, and from present indications the yield will be much larger than it has been for a number of years. The farmers visited were E. S. Dupuis, A. H. Vanbrocklin, H. Taylor, C. L. Wilson, C. Kingry, Claiborn Wilson, R. R. Rafferty and E. R. Pierce. The last named gentleman is one of the foremost cattle raisers of this section. His 200-acre field is largely in meadow, and hay is a marketable product in this section. Messrs. Taylor, C. Wilson, Kingry and Rafferty are out-and-out farmers, and their fields show a large acreage of cereals. C. L. Wilson is improving a new farm by the river, and has a pleasant residence at the grove. Mr. Vanbrocklin is farming and dairying. He has nearly 200 acres in cultivation, and a good prospect for a bountiful harvest. Mr. Dupuis has lately added a new Altman & Taylor steam thresher to his stock of farm machinery. The engine is large enough to do good service in running a saw mill, which use the owner proposes to put it to after the threshing season is over.

ABOVE THE CANYON.

the residents are mostly cattle-raisers. Our visit to the Metzel farm was both pleasant and profitable. Mr. M. is one of the largest stock-raisers in Madison county. His meadow and pasture lands are enclosed by a fence a half dozen or more miles in length. His herd is large. That of full-blood and half breed Short-horns would delight the lover of good stock. Mr. M. is president of the Upper Ruby Stock Growers' association, and as such has given general satisfaction. His field, upon which he grows two crops in one season, was looking well. The first crop of oats and barley had been harvested and stacked, and the second crop was just beginning to head out. It will not ripen, but will make splendid feed for his fine stock.

FULLER'S HOT SPRINGS

as a health-seeking resort has grown in interest since last year. The management and accommodations are better than they ever were before. Mr. Fuller, instead of leasing the hotel, is giving it his personal supervision, and is running it in tip-top shape. He has an excellent house keeper who keeps things neat and tidy, serving the afflicted in the best possible manner for their comfort. For the cure of chronic diseases the Springs are gaining a wide reputation. The water is an excellent cure for rheumatism and spinal afflictions. Several cases taken at a very critical stage have received permanent relief after a few weeks' bathing. One of these, Mrs. A. H. Vanbrocklin, was, when taken there, so severely afflicted with rheumatism that she could scarcely move a limb, and had to be attended day and night, had so recovered that she was able to ride with me to her home. Mrs. C. B. Vaughn, of Lewis and Clarke county, whose condition a month ago was considered extremely critical, had at the time of my visit, improved considerably, and felt confident that the wonderful properties of the Springs would restore her to health.

THE JESSAMINE STOCK FARM

shows some improvement since my last visit, in the way of enlarged pastures, gates and cross fences. It now embraces in all nearly 600 acres under fence, a portion of which is fine meadow land. The owner, J. E. Callaway, is making his home this summer in Virginia City, where he does a full share of the law practice. He has added a number of thoroughbred bulls to his herd this year, and now has as pretty a herd of thoroughbred, one-half and three-quarter breed Short-horns as are to be seen in the country. Fort Short-horns bred up in the butter strains, no herd in Montana can claim a superiority over that of the Jessamine farm. This farm is truly a pleasant place to visit by the lovers of well bred cattle. The herdsman in charge seems to never tire of showing one around.

THE HOME PARK RANCH

grows more attractive as time advances.

Since my last visit fresh water has been brought through the yard and a fountain set near the door. Rubber hose have been supplied and arranged so that a good head of water can be carried to any part of it or thrown upon the buildings. The dairy, which is still in charge of O. P. Templeton, has been improved by the running of water through the milk room. Things inside looked as neat as a parlor. Mr. T. does not boast of butter-making, but is content with having obtained an even price, 40 cents a pound, and a good market through the season. The highest make of butter this summer was from 53 cows, 321 pounds per week. About 680 pounds of butter a month is peddled out to regular customers. Jas. Snapp is in charge of the the farm and herds and Mr. Gregory, brother of W. G. McGregory, is in charge of the fine horses, and his wife looks after the Home Park home department. A young two-year-old Belmont colt, foaled at the Woodburn farm, Ky., has been added to the good horse stock of the ranch. He has good points and when grown will be large. He is christened "Belmont of Home Park." There is no change in the cattle herd except that all the two-year-old thoroughbred and grades placed on the market have been sold. There is, however, a fine lot of yearlings which come into the market next year. The proprietors, Messrs. Sedman & McGregory, make their homes on the banks of Alder gulch, but visitors to the Home Park who love to see fine stock, are always made welcome.

ABOVE THE HOME PARK

Ruby river is walled up by a deep canyon for a short distance, after which there is a nice valley surrounded on all sides by rolling hills and high mountains. The occupant of this valley is J. H. Davis. He has a fine stock range which he enjoys all alone, and during the mining season is engaged in sluicing off a gravel bar from which he washes up a remuneration for the labor, in gold. That promise to run through the canyon and see him when I go around again shall be fulfilled if it does take a whole day.

WILL.

August 26, 1879.

TERRITORIAL NEWS.

On the 31st ult., Dr. McH. Raymond's flock of nearly 1,600 sheep arrived from Kelton, and was driven over the range. The doctor will have them herded in the vicinity of Henry's lake for the present.

On Saturday evening, a sad case of death through an injudicious use of medicine, occurred at Hungry Hollow, a tributary of Alder gulch. The victim was Robert H. White, a young man who arrived in the territory with a party from Saline county, Mo., a few weeks ago. On the day mentioned he was seized with an attack of cholera morbus, or some kindred complaint, and for its relief took an overdose of some medicine he had brought with him. His condition becoming worse, a messenger was sent to Virginia for Dr. Yager, who at once went to his assistance, but only arrived in time to see the unfortunate young man breathe his last. On hearing of the facts, Mr. J. M. Herndon, who is from the neighborhood where the deceased resided, applied himself to the task of giving him decent burial, and on Monday morning the young stranger, who, but a short time before had come among us, full of health and hope, was laid away in his last earthly resting-place as tenderly as he could have been by the loving hands of the relatives who will mourn his untimely taking away. Rev. E. J. Stanley, of the M. E. church South, officiated at the funeral. Deceased was about 22 years of age, a member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, and his conduct since he came here has been that of a sober, industrious young man.

On Monday evening, the 1st inst., the fine hall in the Madison valley was completely destroyed by fire. The building was the property of Madison grange No. 25, Patrons of Husbandry, and was used as a public hall by the residents of the valley. It appears that a lecture on phrenology and kindred subjects was delivered by a Professor Owens, on the same evening, and, at its conclusion, the hall was left apparently safe. How the fire originated is, therefore, a mystery. Some of the neighbors think that a match or cigar stump must have been dropped, and the fire thus generated was fanned

into a blaze by the brisk wind which was blowing at the time. When the fire was discovered, the roof at the north end of the building was already falling in, and no efforts were availing to save any part of the property from destruction. Among the property destroyed were the school books and apparatus of the district school, which was being temporarily held in the hall, on account of a skunk having been killed in the school building a day or two previously. The prayer books, hymnals, and other property of the Episcopal Church mission were also destroyed, together with all the paraphernalia of the grange. The hall was a large one, handsomely finished and decorated, and the citizens feel its loss very severely, as it was the only public meeting place in the district. The loss is estimated at about \$3,000. We understand it is the intention of the people to rebuild as soon as the material can be procured. It is fortunate that the wind was blowing from the north at the time, as had it been otherwise, the school house adjacent would also have been destroyed.—*Madisonian*.

SUPERINTENDENT NORRIS.

EDITOR HUSBANDMAN:—As much fault has been found with the Superintendent of the National park for what he has not done and for that which he has done, will you allow me a little space in your paper to give a few facts obtained by me on a recent visit to the park?

The road from the south fork of the Madison to the upper canyon of that river runs through heavy timber—much of it dead. Through this timber—some twelve miles—considerable of this timber is blown down across the road. This road was opened by the people of Virginia City and vicinity several years ago, and has not been repaired since; but this part of the road is not within the park, and consequently outside of Col. Norris' jurisdiction, and he has no more authority to use the appropriation in clearing out that road than he would have to improve the gulch road to Diamond City. From the mouth of the canyon to Gibbon's Fork there is little or no down timber, and but little from there to the upper basin. Superintendent Norris set twenty men to work on this part of the road some ten days ago, and has no doubt by this time a good, passable road from Gibbon's fork to the upper Fire Hole basin. Last year's appropriation of \$10,000 was not near all expended, something like \$3,000 remaining over. What was done last year was carried on under many difficulties. The war with the Bannack Indians was a great drawback. One-half of the men had to do scouting and picket duty while the others worked, but with all this there were over fifty miles of road laid out and cleared, with many miles of grading done, and the park fully explored and roads mapped out for future improvement.

This summer's operations did not commence until in June, and by direction of the Interior department a large block house, requiring over four hundred sticks of hewn timbers, for the use of the superintendent in protecting the property of the park, has been built, and nearly half a township of grazing land has been fenced for the stock necessary to do the work in the park, together with a great deal of grading and road-building, and the season is not yet half over.

A harder worker or more ambitious and energetic man than P. W. Norris the government could not have sent here to do the work that has to be done in the park, especially for the mere pittance that he receives. Unlike any other government official, he goes about clad in buckskin, and says, "come on, we will do this," instead of sitting back in his easy chair and telling what ought to be done, and with kid-gloved hands signing vouchers for the pay. As to Col. Norris' ability to do the work of improving the park, we have no doubt; and as to his being an honest, upright man, we cannot do better than to refer to the history of his past life.

A TOURIST.

August 31, 1879.

Extensive frauds in the British Commissariat Department in India have been discovered. Army officers and contractors conspired to swindle the Government by overcharging.