

Rocky Mountain Husbandman.

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THURSDAY, JUNE 10, 1880.

We regret to learn that the sheep rot has made its appearance on the Pacific coast. This is the most dreaded of all diseases which sheep are subjected, and its ravages in England and Australia have been fearful during the past winter. It is no new disease, but one long familiar to sheep men, having existed to a greater or less degree in every wool-growing country on earth, and will perhaps continue throughout all time. The rot, as it is termed, is due to the existence of a parasite in the liver called a fluke. The fluke, says *Stewart's Shepherd's Manual*, is a member of a family of sucking worms (similar to the leeches), known as distomae. It is a flat, oval-shaped animal, more thickly conical in front, and has a sucker or mouth. Where the thicker part joins the flatter hinder part there is a second sucker upon the under side. The fluke is a highly organized animal. It possesses a branched intestinal canal and digestive organs, and a fully developed circulatory system, the power of self-impregnation should a second individual not be present. It propagates by means of eggs, which are produced in great numbers, and which pass with the bile into the intestinal canal, from whence they are voided with the dung of the sheep. The eggs need to be washed by rain or flood into stagnant water to become developed. The embryo, covered with cilia or arms—the locomotive organs—leaves the shell and swims in the water. It is then believed, from our present knowledge of its habits, to penetrate the bodies of snails or other amphibious molluscs, and thus pass a stage of its existence. These soft-bodied molluscs being swallowed by the sheep, which graze in low moist pastures along with the herbage, the parasites contained in them are introduced into the stomach, from which they pass by the gall ducts into the liver, and thus complete the round of their existence. They collect in masses, sometimes closely packed in the gall ducts, obstruct the flow of the gall, and set up irritation, and thus produce jaundice, by which the membranes are colored yellow. At this first onset of the disease the animal seems to thrive and make fat rapidly, but the fat is highly colored, especially that of the kidneys and brisket. Some English feeders have purposely exposed their sheep to the flukes to hasten the fattening; but, this stage passed, the structure of the liver becomes changed from the irritation and pressure; the gall ducts become enlarged into extensive cavities, which are filled with flukes and their eggs. The pain thus caused makes the animal restless and thin. The partial destruction of the liver and stoppage of its functions causes diarrhoea, dropsy, and the disorganization of the blood, which constitute the fatal rot.

As large flocks are annually driven from California to Montana we may naturally expect the disease to appear sooner or later in this Territory. As yet it is only in a very mild form in California and may not become serious enough to cause any great alarm. And although it should reach Montana we do not anticipate that it will be in the malignant form which has characterized it in low land countries, where the atmosphere is very humid and the water stands in pools, and is of a stagnant nature one-half of the year. Montana is a very dry country and the water courses are clear running streams. There are no pools of stagnant water to speak of, hence the danger of the disease becomes prevalent in our midst should it reach here is very slight—not enough to have any effect upon prices of sheep or deter any from engaging in the business.

The news from the terminus of the Utah and Northern is to the effect that the road is making haste towards Central Montana very slowly, and the head of the Beaverhead valley, it is thought, will not be reached before September, which point will, in all probability, be the winter terminus. A party of engineers have been at work for the past month examining the various routes from this point north, and are still at work. They have made a preliminary survey of the route from Lovell's, via Glendale, to Butte, also of the one via Salisbury and the Pipestone, and last week were engaged between Butte and Helena, going via Deer Lodge. This done, the direct route from Salisbury to Helena, via the stage road, will be surveyed, and then probably that down the Jefferson and the Missouri river will be examined. It is probable that the summer will be put in by the engineers making out the estimates of the several routes, but that none of them

will be determined upon until after the next session of the legislature, that the railroad company will go before this body with several propositions, and that much will depend upon its action as to which route will be adopted by the company. It is now pretty plain that the railroad company do not contemplate reaching Helena, the apparent objective point of the road, before the fall of 1881. This it can do with the winter terminus at Lovell's. Should the Territory or Helena come down handsomely, the road will probably be pushed forward directly toward Helena with all possible haste, otherwise it may turn either to the right hand or to the left, and be several years in reaching that point. In this event the mineral resources of Glendale, Butte, and Deer Lodge county generally, will be a strong inducement for the road to cross to the western slope. On the other hand, the great agricultural resources of the Gallatin and Missouri valley are to be considered. These do not promise so much in the beginning, but prospect best for the future, which fact, coupled with the superior advantages of the route, and the prospect of controlling the vast wool trade of Meagher county by running along its western border, leaves it a mooted question as to which route will be adopted if the company is left to decide solely upon the merits of the question, uninfluenced by any consideration other than the resources of the country to be penetrated.

THE CHICAGO CONVENTION.

The candidates were placed in nomination on the 5th. Conkling presented Grant's name with a telling speech, which made the galleries thunder with applause. Pixley, of California, seconded Blaine's nomination in an eloquent address in behalf of the great empire extending from the Rocky mountains to the golden shores of the Pacific, which was received with great enthusiasm. The nomination of the rest of the candidates was applauded, but not so vociferously. On June 7th, the convention commenced balloting. The unit rule was not enforced, and many votes were changed in instructed delegations.

The first ballot resulted: Grant, 304; Blaine, 284; Sherman, 93; Edmunds, 34; Windom, 10; Washburne, 30. Balloting was continued without material change, to the 18th ballot, when the convention took a recess until 7 p. m. Balloting was resumed in the evening, and continued until the 28th ballot was reached, which stood: Grant, 307; Blaine, 279; Sherman, 92; Edmunds, 31; Windom, 10; Washburne, 35; Garfield, 2.

This leaves it as impossible for us to guess who will be nominated as it was before the delegates were convened. Grant, it would seem, is the strong man, but it is possible that the nominee has not yet been named.

MAY IN NEW ENGLAND.

There seems to be no more universal custom throughout New England than the time-honored one of "Going a Maying," but of late years people do not wait until they begin to search the woodlands for flowers.

This year a lady residing in Holden, about three miles from here, picked a handful of arbutus flowers February 22d, which she sent to the editor of one of the local papers in this place. About the middle of April a young gentleman from Montana and the lady who is now his wife, went searching for flowers in some of the grand old woods of Massachusetts. They gathered several large bunches of arbutus flowers, the most beautiful I had ever seen. One bunch they bestowed upon me, and it remained a thing of beauty for two weeks, while I am quite sure that the memory of it will be a joy forever.

The second week in May I had the good fortune to go maying myself. We walked about a mile to the depot of the Dummy Railroad, which runs between Worcester and Lake Quinsigamond; here we took the cars for the lake shore. This lake is a great summer resort for the people of Worcester. It is about two miles distant from here. Many drive down in carriages, others take the cars. The fare is but ten cents. During the summer season the cars run every half hour, but many times they are so crowded that the ride is as uncomfortable as it is short. The lake is about three miles long, and there are at least five hotels and as many parks and groves along its shores. There are three or four steamers on the lake, and plenty of row boats and sail boats to let for twenty-five cents per hour. Fish are to be caught and water lilies to be found in their season, but during the month of May the chief attraction for the fifty thousand people of this city is the May flowers, which grow in profusion in the woods along the lake shore. We found white and blue violets, anemones, wild honeysuckles, and other woodland flowers of which I did not

know the names. We admired the bell-shaped blossoms of the blueberry, and saw several wild cherry trees in bloom. We picked some of the cherry flowers. We also saw many wild strawberry flowers, but remembering that the fairies never love those who pick the strawberry flowers, I cautioned the children accordingly.

Returning, we noticed that the tame cherry, peach and apple trees were all in bloom. This is said to be a conjunction not often witnessed, the full blossoming of apple trees before May 14th having occurred but fifteen times during the past 116 years.

Farmers are well along with their spring work; most plant their potatoes in April, though they often do well when planted in June. Peas were up three weeks ago. The weather has been warm and pleasant; some days the mercury has been at 90° in the shade. Green vegetables have been in market a long time. Radishes, cowslips, dandelions, spinach, rhubarb and asparagus are all raised in Worcester county, and are reasonable in price. Green peas and string beans are brought here from a distance at this season of the year, and are 80 cents per peck. Strawberries are plenty and reasonable in price, being 30 and 40 cents per box. Strawberries raised in Worcester will not be in market until June, then the prices will probably be lower.

To-day is rainy and cool, and a fire is not uncomfortable. Vennor has predicted cold weather about the 15th, and we look for it until it comes. However, in my opinion, no writer or prophet really hits the New England weather every time as well as does Josh Billings.

SYLVIA A. MOSS.
Worcester, Mass., May 13, 1880.

TERRITORIAL NEWS.

From the Missoulian.

Upwards of 3,000 head of cattle have been driven out of this county this spring.

Mike Cummings drove, on Tuesday, 90 head of beef steers through Missoula bound for Butte.

Charley Smith's band of cattle, purchased in this county this spring—numbering probably 1,000 head, leave for the northern country in a few days.

T. J. Demers' band of cattle passed through, on Monday, bound—so report saith—for Cheyenne. There were probably 1,000 head in the band, though variously estimated at from 900 to 1,300, and containing some very fine beefsteers.

On Thursday, just as we go to press, a government wagon loaded with brick, and four mules while being driven across the Missoula bridge, suddenly dropped through. One complete section of the bridge broke down. The wagon was "upended," spilling its load on the island; the two wheel-mules were hung to the upper end of the wagon, until cut loose, but were not materially injured. The driver, Samuel H. Little, who was on the saddle mule, can congratulate himself upon one of the luckiest escapes on record—for he became entangled in the saddle, and hung for a moment upon the scrambling mule, and even then escaped with a few bruises. Had not his swing mules been swinging high and dry, when he swung out of the saddle, he must certainly have been killed. I-fold-you-so conventions are now in order.

From the New North-West.

The Squaw gulch mines cleaned up \$1,400 a few days since, the result of two weeks' run and the first of the season. Clean-ups will be made weekly hereafter.

No extensive preparations are yet being made for a celebration of the coming 4th of July. We venture the prediction, however, a month in advance, that almost all Montanians, excepting ministers of the Gospel, will have a holiday.

Mr. John S. Pemberton has received from the east some fine stock and the same are now at his ranch near town. We are unable to obtain breed and pedigree, but will publish the same next week if obtainable.

Sheep \$6 per head, calves \$8 to \$12, and beef cattle weighing dressed from 750 to 800 lbs. at \$45 per head are the prices we are informed by Mr. Marehion he has to pay for animals to keep on sale at the City meat market.

From the Helena Herald.

Annie Northcott, who attempted to commit suicide at the county jail a few days since, has again escaped. Thursday morning Sheriff McAndrews expected to start with her for Deer Lodge, but some time during the night previous she escaped from St. John's Hospital and has not yet been recaptured. Annie has remarked that she would die before she would return to Deer Lodge, and it seems altogether probable that if the officers should succeed in finding her she will sooner or later carry her threat into effect.

We are informed by Dr. Barkley that on Wednesday last a son of James Selle, of Deep creek, Missouri valley, was kicked in the head by a mule and probably fatally in-

jured. He was a bright little fellow about nine years of age, and was playing about the stable where the mule was fastened. The child's skull was badly crushed by the force of the blow. Probably an hour after the occurrence he was found lying senseless. Dr. Barkley was summoned but was unable to attend the case. Dr. Lebecher, who happened to be near, removed several large pieces of bone. When last heard from the boy was still unconscious.

From the Atlantis.

The line of the narrow-gauge railroad is located as far along down the Beaverhead as the mouth of Blacktail creek, where Kirkpatrick Bros. have a store, and the post office is called Edgerton. This is six miles below Watson. The track at the mouth of Ryan's canyon passes directly in front of Mrs. Barrett's store and continues on the north side of the Beaverhead river a distance of two miles further, where it crosses the river and runs along the south towards Salisbury.

The Alice mine is to have 60 new stamps put in instead of 40, making 80 with the present 20 stamps. After a little it is the intention to add 20 more stamps as wet crushers, making 100 in all.

Wickes has shipped 100,000 pounds of bullion the last week. The smelter is turning out 8,000 pounds per day.

From the Benton Record.

All the stockmen of Sun river and other portions of Choteau are making a general round-up of cattle. They will be out probably six weeks or longer.

Chas. E. Severance is in town from the Judith gap and will await the arrival of the Far West, as some Eastern friends are expected on that boat who intend visiting the Judith country for the purpose of locating sheep ranches, etc.

From the Butte Miner.

The annual meeting of bishops of the M. E. Church South, was held at Nashville, Tenn., last month. At this session it was decided that the annual conference of the M. E. Church South for Montana should be held on the 15th of next September, and that Bishop Dogget, of Virginia, should preside over it. The conference will be held at Butte, the place fixed upon at last year's conference, which met at Willow creek. Bishop Dogget is reported to be one of the most eloquent pulpit orators of the age. In his coming the church-going people of Butte are promised an intellectual treat enjoyed.

From the Helena Independent.

The estimate for provisions for Sioux Indians in Dakota for the year beginning June 30th, 1880, includes the following items: Bacon, 512,000 pounds; beef, 19,872,000 pounds; beans, 25,300 pounds; corn, 1,802,000 pounds; coffee, 120,000 pounds; flour, 3,144,700 pounds; feed, 141,000 pounds; hard bread, 294,100 pounds; hominy, 36,100 pounds; lard, 2,900 pounds; mess pork 1,225 barrels; oats, 40,000 pounds; oat meal, 500 pounds; rice, 188,400 pounds; salt, 46,775 pounds; sugar 247,500 pounds; tea, 17,140 pounds; tobacco; 48,000 pounds; wheat 300,000 pounds; Indians in other territories are provided for with like liberality and if they could only get half the amount bought and intended for them, all the red men in the country would live well, and there would be no occasion for hostile demonstrations nor danger thereof.

RE-WRITTEN.

—A San Francisco man was killed by an East Indian whom he called a "nigger."

—A drunken stranger staggered into Mrs. Evans' sick room, at Arrowsmith, Illinois, when she was alone, and the fright killed her.

—The *Mining and Scientific Press* says that the first iron works in this country were erected in 1619, at Falling Creek, not far from Jamestown, Va.

—Col. Thos. A. Scott has just paid in the balance of his \$10,000 subscription to the endowment fund of the Washington and Lee University, Virginia.

—Alexander Dumas' fortune is estimated at \$500,000, outside of his art collection, worth nearly as much. Every penny of it he has derived from his literary labors.

—There has been a great increase of late years in wheat cultivation in British India, and it is estimated that India now ranks fourth among wheat-producing countries.

—Women in Iowa are now eligible to hold the office of County Recorder and County Auditor, and there promises to be a full crop of lady aspirants for these positions throughout that State this coming fall.

—Samuel S. Scattergood was a conservative importer of Mediterranean fruits in Philadelphia, and had amassed about \$250,000. A year ago he invested nearly all his money in Leadville mining projects, and they have all failed. Not only was his own fortune engulfed, but friends were led by him into similar loss. He could not bear this adversity, and hanged himself.

—A leading hotel in Dundee, Scotland, is furnished throughout with furniture made in Grand Rapids, Michigan.

—The money spent for tobacco in this country, according to *The Retailer*, exceeds in amount the expenditure for bread.

—Among the paid bills and other documents received by a St. Louis man from his fifteen-year-old daughter, who was away at school, was a marriage certificate. That was his first news of her nuptials.

—The Anichkoff Palace, the residence of the Czarevitch, is now connected with the St. Petersburg Alexandrinsky Theatre by a telephone, and the Czarevich and his wife listen to the music without having to go to the theatre.

—Robinson Warren, of St. Clairsville, O., had always been so submissive under the domination of his wife, that when he finally nerved himself to protest against her clubbing their child, she furiously caught up a handy revolver and killed him.

—A peasant who had during fifty years dressed in female attire and been considered a woman, was recently sent to a hospital in Milan, and was there discovered by the surgeons in charge to be a man. The supposed woman had been formally married to a man.

—A demure, diminutive girl, aged 18, is under arrest in Philadelphia for bigamy. She has three living husbands, all of whom she has married within two years. When asked why she had done this, she answered, "They were all good fellows, and they coaxed me so."

—Jacob Bennett heard angry voices in his house at Sedalia, Mo., and on peeping in saw that the wife whom he was living with was confronted with the wife whom he had deserted. He cautiously stole away and sent a policeman to separate the women, who were found fighting furiously with knives.

—An Illinois woman went into the show business on a small scale with a petrified baby, which she wheeled from town to town in a perambulator, telling a story of its sickness, death, and final transformation into stone. The figure had been well made as to its head and arms, but plain marks of the chisel were found elsewhere.

—The father of the House of Commons has again been returned in the person of Mr. Mansel-Talbot, who has sat for Glamorganshire since 1830. The fact that a man of 77 should have refused a peerage and sought re-election is significant of the fascination which the House, reputed "the pleasantest club in London," exercises over its members.

—Italian statisticians calculate that 50,000 Italians emigrate to North and South America yearly. Up to 1881 South America had received 227,890 Italian settlers. The numbers now leaving the peninsula are alarming the landowners; during March a single steamer bore away to Montevideo 1,300, and other steamers shipped nearly as many at a load.

—Two pedestrian shows are traveling through the country, circus fashion. One is managed by O'Leary, and usually occupies large public buildings. The other is Haverly's enterprise, and the walking is done in a big tent. The races last six days each, at twelve hours a day. The best figure thus far in such a contest are 440 for Hughes, the "lepper." The first prize is usually \$500.

—According to the United States Consul at Birmingham, England, the exports of hardware thence to this country for the quarter ending March 31 were £117,316, as against £11,004 in the same period last year, an increase of \$530,000. Of metal sheathing, nearly \$50,000 worth has been dispatched, against \$225 last year, and more than \$15,500 of anvils and vices in excess of last year.

—Kia Lewis, of Newport Lighthouse fame, is as courageous as ever. She was seized with diphtheria last winter while a gale was blowing and there could be no communication with land. She knew that the hideous disease required prompt treatment, and she had read that kerosene was an unfailing remedy. So she administered sharp doses of the oil, and though it made her violently ill it cured her diphtheria.

—Antoine Brisbois was found murdered in his trapping hut, in Ontario. His furs and money were missing, and so was his partner, Patrick Hennessey, upon whom the crime was laid. That happened two years ago. Hennessey was never discovered. Lately, Felix Raicot and Cyrus Greenover, lumbermen, were crushed by a heavy log. Raicot was told that he would speedily die. He then confessed that he and Greenover murdered both Brisbois and Hennessey, concealing the latter's body. Those who heard this revelation hurried out to fetch a Justice, and, in their absence, Greenover crawled from his couch, though dangerously hurt, and pulled the bandages from the dying Raicot's wounds, so as to silence him in death before the official came to write out his confession.