

## Rocky Mountain Husbandman.

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THURSDAY, MARCH 9, 1882.

THE suspension of work and the withdrawal of the men from the Utah & Northern between Dillon and Helena no doubt strikes the latter place with startling force, and offers an opportune moment for the river men to strike for business. Seeing that the Utah & Northern was pushing rapidly for Helena, and believing that the business interests of that city would do all in its power to assist and encourage its advancement, Benton and river men generally had given up all hopes of securing Helena freights, but the suspension of work will inspire them with renewed hope, and may possibly be the means of securing to them considerable business from this quarter.

THERE is an idea prevalent among the people of thickly settled States that they alone enjoy the comforts and conveniences of life, have any advantages of society or anything worth living for; that the people of the West are strangers to all these pleasures. But it is a sad mistake. It is the pioneers of a new country that know what real enjoyment is. Their hospitality is unbounded and their social gatherings are like so many family reunions. The stiff formalities of society and the perplexing anxieties of dress are unknown. Common sense is their guide-book of etiquette, and their mirth and joy is unrestrained. Whoever crossed the threshold of a frontier home and did not feel at home—did not see welcome pictured in everything about him? And it is a noted fact that there is more sociability among the people of a country when it is new than there ever is afterwards.

THE attempted assassination of Queen Victoria is another one of those unexplainable mysteries. We can well understand why a man would risk his life in an attempt to assassinate a ruler when there is anything at stake, or any advantage to be gained, but the recent attempts at this business seem to be for no purpose save revenge, spite or mere "cussedness." The nihilists of Russia are continually losing their lives in attempts upon the life of the Czar, and all for naught, for as fast as one ruler passes off the stage of existence another steps on, and the government moves on without apparent change. In the case of the assassination of President Garfield there seems to have been no method in the act, but merely the gratification of a personal ambition. In the attempt to take the life of the Queen of England there appears to have been even less object than in either of the other cases mentioned. What could inspire such action is hard to conjecture, for success in neither case could bring about any material change in national affairs, nor is it calculated to benefit in any way the perpetrator or his friends. Does the heralding of one's name throughout the newspapers of all Christendom for a brief season compensate for a life, or is the world getting the assassination craze?

A WORD to the new-comer, and to our people in regard to them, will not be amiss at this particular time, as there is bound to be a large influx as soon as the weather gets warm. There is a demand now for laborers, but we cannot hope for it to keep up the usual percentage of the immigration (three-fourths) are day laborers. It is for the interest of the country that the labor market be kept up. To assure this every one should use his utmost endeavors to induce the new-comer to enter into business on his own account. This the immigrant should try to do, for it is the only sure road to independence and fortune. Let the young man when he arrives in the Territory proceed to locate on a home, and if he has not money enough to buy a team and plow he can at least erect some kind of an abode, and then work for some of his neighbors and invest his earnings in improvements, and by the second season at the furthest he will be able to farm it on his own account. If, however, we were advising young men in regard to coming to Montana we would say to them, make up your minds before you start that a home is the first thing to be striven for, and unless willing to endure the hardships and self-sacrifice necessary to procure one, we would say do not come. Montana does not want any except those willing to work—willing to build homes and become identified with the country.

There are thousands of acres of fertile land on our beautiful valleys awaiting only to be turned to account, and this the new-comer should do. There is but little to accomplish in depending upon day's wages. It is true the pay is good, but employment is very irregular, and we seldom see the professional hired man making much of a mark. The extravagant customs of the country are easily formed, and generally swallow up in winter what is accumulated in summer. This is not only the case here, but it is true of the States, and no one is better aware of the fact than the young man who comes west to better his condition. No time should therefore be lost. Having sought the West for its advantage of free homes, the first move should be to possess one. Do not stop to labor for another until this has been done. A man of nerve can do much more on a farm with a small capital than most men imagine. The ground may be plowed and seed put in, and fenced afterwards. A dug-out or the rudest kind of a cabin will suffice to begin with. Many of Montana's best farmers commenced in this way, and some of them had families to support, and the beginner of to-day had better do likewise than depend on leading the life of a hired man. The hired man is very essential, but only those who adopt it as a stepping stone to something greater, as a rule, have ambition enough to be valuable even in that capacity.

### UPPER MADISON ITEMS.

UPPER MADISON, Feb. 26, 1882.

Editor of the Husbandman:

Since my last we have been having quite a change in the weather programme—plenty of snow, high winds and the mercury down to eighteen below zero. I brought the stock down off the high table-lands to the lower valley, where there is ample protection from the winds and drifting snow. But we again have bright sunshine, with a higher thermometer and the snow is rapidly disappearing, in fact the ground on the valley is all bare, excepting drifts. Up to the present time stockmen have not lost one per cent. One very seldom sees a dead animal.

We celebrated the one hundred and fiftieth anniversary of the Father of Our Country on the evening of the 21st, and a brilliant affair it was. I should like to tell you of the many pretty and elegant costumes worn by the ladies, but I have not the courage to do so, for I might say that Mrs. or Miss So-and-so had on a beautiful light silk, her polonaise trimmed in wine-colored plush and old point lace, when in reality Mrs. So-and-so wore a poplin, with a basque trimmed in satin and fringe. But one thing I do know. The gentlemen were all elegantly attired in black, with white vests, and kid gloves in various colors. The supper, prepared by the ladies and brought with them from their homes, was excellent. The music, dancing and decorum could not be excelled by our more favored Eastern cousins. The writer could not but think when looking over the assembly how destitute we were (taking Mr. Young for it) of civilization. Really, Mr. John Russel Young must be very much civilized. To read his letter to the New York Herald, published in book form, of a "Tour Around the World by Gen. Grant," one would think so, for does he not tell us there that while Grant and party were ascending Vesuvius they took their luncheon in "quite a primitive fashion," for they "were as far from the amenities of civilization as though they were in Montana." John Russel Young is a very clever writer, but he had better take in Montana on his travels and he will, I hope, have a better opinion of our civilization, and will not think us so primitive. I can imagine the party taking their luncheon in their fingers and smacking their chops over it like a lot of Greasers or half-breeds, and saying this is the way they do it in Montana. I would have Mr. John Russel Young know that people in Montana do not do it in that way. That may be the case in Mexico or on Mount Vesuvius, but not in Montana.

Mr. Editor, my letter is long. I have taken much space, but when such papers as the *American Agriculturist* tells its readers that we suffer with small pox in Montana the most of the time (see February number of that paper), and then John Russel Young to class us with the Crow Indians, it makes me chafe under the collar about as much as when the plow-share won't scour "in busy spring time."

HALFBREED.

### SHONKIN VALLEY ITEMS.

FORT BENTON, M. T., Feb. 25, 1882.

Editor Husbandman:

In visiting this valley four years ago, looking up a location, I found but two or three ranches, those of Cobell and O'Reilly being the most noticeable. Now, from the mouth of the creek to its source in the mountains every available place is taken, and many are now under a high state of cultivation, with good improvements, dis-

playing a spirit of advancement worthy of our enterprising frontiersmen. Some of the bench-lands have been improved, and a fair success in cereals has been the ward for their owner's venture.

Our school interests are represented by A. B. Coe, and maintained by private enterprise, until a district is laid off by our county fathers, a thing very much needed.

Cattle and sheep have done remarkably well this winter, with little snow to interfere with their feeding. The stock men will soon start out on a round-up of bulls, in compliance with a resolution passed at the last meeting of the Shonkin Stock Association. A very sensible move and one that will put many dollars in the pockets of their owners in the future.

The sheep interests, represented in this valley by Greenleaf & Co., are under the personal management of their active partner, Geo. D. Patterson, who provided a large quantity of hay and the best shed I have ever seen for this business. They have had little use for either, however, coming through the winter thus far with less loss than flocks usually meet with in summer from poison, etc.

The snow has all left us, and the ranchmen are busily engaged in hauling timbers and fencing, taking time by the forelock, so as to be able to sow the largest crop ever planted here.

Mr. Thomas Thornton has located a ranch on the bench-land, and will bring out a ditch and farm one hundred acres of it in connection with the Cobell ranch.

Mr. John F. Patterson, who has been with Greenleaf & Co. for the past two years, has also located a ranch, and will improve it in the spring for the accommodation of 2,000 sheep.

Your valuable paper is eagerly looked for here, as it always contains news and information interesting to farmers and stockmen. I am pleased with the suggestions in your issue of the 16th, considering the future prospect of this country, compared with the past. I think it were were to follow in your wake, we would have a more rapid and permanent settlement of the Territory by a substantial class of people, for they would then know with what they had to contend and come prepared to stay. P. D. G.

### DECLINES A CONTROVERSY.

SUN RIVER, M. T., February 17, 1882.

Editor Husbandman:

"Resident" has been pleased to take exceptions to some things which I have written to your paper. Though not, strictly speaking, a resident of Sun River valley, I respect most of the people who are, and would be very sorry to do or say anything having a tendency to disparage them, and as I could not answer "Resident" without doing so, unless I make it a personal matter. I have deemed it wiser not to enter into any newspaper controversy with "Resident," either to deny the truthfulness of his assertions or the falsity of my own. Some time I will tell "Resident" a little fable about the "wearer and the shoe," and in the meantime respectfully tender him my sympathy. D. B. H.

### TERRITORIAL NEWS.

Work on the Bitter Root Prince is progressing, and that mine is represented to be looking well. It said that \$30,000 has been offered Anderson Baker for his interest in that property.

It is stated that the land office of the Northern Pacific has over 2,000 applications for the purchase of land in Montana, showing a healthy state of emigration to that Territory.

The citizens of Bedford have ordered the roughs out of that town.

The *River Press* has information to the effect that Paris Gibson has been offered \$8,000 for the Barker and Gray Eagle mines over and above the amount he has bonded the same for.

The Sunbeam mine near Virginia has a shaft down one hundred feet deep, and preparations are being made to run levels.

Mr. E. Beach, in from his Sun River ranch, reports having passed his herd of pure bred merinos successfully through the winter. The casualties in a flock of 1,200 head number only five, four of which were drowned in the river, and the other poisoned. His herd comes out this spring fat and healthy, with a fine, heavy wool clip in promise.—*Herald*.

Forty electric lights have been subscribed for in this city, and the lighting of Helena business houses by electricity is only a question of a few weeks time.—*Independent*.

Mr. and Mrs. C. W. Hardenbrook are moving this week from Butte to their farm on Dempsey creek. Charley says "if crops are good" he will build in Deer Lodge next fall and remove to this place. And now the prayer of Deer Lodgers will be that he will have good crops.—*New North-West*.

Wm. Comstock has recently been arrested by the Deputy U. S. Marshal for contempt of court, he having failed to obey a summons to appear as a witness at a former term of court.

At a recent meeting of the stockholders of the Deer Lodge Collegiate Institute it was agreed to lease the building and grounds to E. H. Irvine for a term of ten years, Mr. Irvine to pay up the indebtedness now standing against the building, make improvements, rent and use the same; and the company at their option, on the expiration of the lease, to pay only the value of improvements and insurance and keep the property, or deliver to Mr. Irvine a clear title to the same.

Phil. Gibson's lambing operations among his thoroughbred ewe band, at Pablo's Garden, are coming on successfully. Although it is so early in the season, he is raising every lamb.—*Record*.

The arches of some of the residences of Deer Lodge are being made of Marble from the new marble mine on Dempsey creek.

Robt. T. Lincoln, Secretary of War, approves Delegate Maginnis' recommendation for the erection at Big Hole pass of a suitable monument to the officers soldiers and citizens who fell in battle there.

Mr. Nahum Parker sold his ranch at the mouth of Alder gulch, last week to Dennis Collins, of Laurin. The consideration was \$10,000.—*Madisonian*.

During the month of February the amount of bullion received at the U. S. Assay Office amounted to \$74,588.26—Gold, \$60,622.81; silver, \$13,965.95.

### GENERAL NEWS.

A snow slide recently buried a cabin and its inmates in Big Cottonwood canyon, Utah. Seven persons perished.

The widow of Daniel Webster died on the 27th ult.

Two tramps were killed and several injured by the ditching of a freight train.

Two little children were burned in a house at Nauvoo, Ill., on the 28th ult.

California is wild with enthusiasm over the prospect of the passage of the Chinese bill.

Conkling has nothing to communicate to the press concerning his nomination as Associate Justice.

The decrease in the public debt for February is about \$9,000,000.

The loss of four fishing schooners, Mass. 22 widows and 62 orphans at Gloucester, Mass.

Dr. Carver, the American, killed 38 birds, and Webster 36, in the 50-bird match.

It is stated that the Ministry considers the maintenance of slavery a necessity for the Egyptian people.

The President has nominated Frederick Soloman, of Missouri, to be Surveyor General of Utah.

The Senate in executive session confirmed the nominations of ex-Senators Conkling and Sargent.

The face and left hand of Garfield has been successfully cast in bronze for his family and the mold broken, so that there cannot be a copy.

The total number of hogs packed in Cincinnati for the winter of 1881 to date is 2,384,878, a decrease of 137,547 from the previous season.

The Senate bill appropriating \$100,000 for continuing the improvement of Galveston harbor passed the House.

The bill passed the House authorizing the construction of a bridge across the Mississippi at Keithsburg, Ill.

Dynamite cartridges have been discovered in the custom House at Limerick.

Lieut. Harber and Master Schmetzer sailed on the 24th inst. to join the Jeannette search party at the mouth of the Lena river. Gen. Ignatieff offered them every assistance.

Lieutenant Danenhower has been forbidden by the surgeons to start for St. Petersburg until the weather gets warmer. The remainder of the survivors of the Jeannette start without him.

The Russo-Jewish committee have prepared a statement confirming the reports of outrages on the Jews in Russia, including many cases of murder and rape, which the recent British consular reports discredited.

Vest introduced a bill in the Senate to deprive national banks of the power to issue circulation after July 1, 1882. He said he knew the finance committee was opposed to this bill, and therefore he would beg them not to bury it, but give the Senate a chance to vote on it.

Orville B. Roe, of LaSalle, Ill., an idle and drunken carpenter, shot his wife because she refused longer to support him and then killed himself. Five children were found clinging to the woman's body as she lay upon the floor. She will probably die.

In the Philadelphia election for city council, the reform party won the day over the gas trust ring.

The Canadian government will build a telegraph line from Nova Scotia to Sable Island this year.

There was a thunder and rain storm in New York City on the 21st ult.

The farmers about the town of Mount Kisco, on the Harlem Railroad, in West Chester county, New York, are much exercised over finding great quantities of grasshoppers hidden under dry mats of grass on the uplands.

The exports of domestic merchandise past fiscal year amounted to \$883,927, the largest ever known. This is more double what it was ten years ago.

The oldest person in the State of Indiana is Father Imhoff, of Richmond, who is his 107th year. He has a good appetite, his mental faculties are failing.

In the war of 1812, James Isom spent time in a mountain cave making salt for the manufacture of gunpowder for the American army. He died on January Richmond, Ky., aged 102.

W. H. Vanderbilt, the owner of the \$1,000,000 mansion in New York, aspires to be the fastest team in America. He will the reins over the Queen of the Turf, M. S., who is to be driven in double harness.

Three thousand children of deceased wives' sisters are presently to assemble Exeter Hall, London, and clamor for the repeal of the law which makes them illegitimate.

Mrs. Schwarz, in a suit for damages against the barkeepers, who persistently drinks to her husband in Cincinnati, swears that she has endured \$5,000 worth of misery by smelling whisky on his breath every night for a year.

A north of England paper speaks of a young farmer who ran rapidly through property. His property was an open field. He wore a red shirt and a bull was in the wake of the young farmer.

Trinity College, Dublin, has, strange say, nearly 300 English undergraduates. This is largely due to its special classes, the Indian civil service.

Some of the London art studies of today are miracles of beauty and taste, in many contrast to those simple places in which Reynolds and Gainsborough produced their triumphs.

At Portsmouth, N. H., March 3d, the which swept out of the rivers, piled up in large jam for miles, covering large tracts of land. It is the worst known for years.

Dallas Sanders, ex-Assistant District Attorney of Philadelphia, has been appointed special assistant Attorney General of district in the prosecution of the star cases.

Queen Margaret of Italy has among the ladies of her court two Americans, who magnificent jewels almost eclipse the famous diamonds of the Roman Princesses.

Dispatches concerning 43 points in spring wheat districts in Minnesota, Iowa and Nebraska give the prospects for seed as follows; favorable, 27; unfavorable, 1; seeding done, 8.

The officers of the Lutheran church Columbia, Ind., locked out the pastor. He took an axe from a neighboring wood pile chopped down the door and held services usual.

An emissary started for Berlin on the inst. with an important letter from the Czar to Emperor William. It is believed the Czar wrote the letter immediately after reception given to Scobelloff.

The N. Y. Central was covered by a landslide several hundred feet deep, on the inst.

The House Committee on Public Land have reported a bill to return the military reservation at Fort Abercrombie, Minn., the public domain and open it for settlers.

Freights between Chicago and New York have been advanced 30 cents per hundred pounds on base bullion.

Jenny Lind advises those American girls who are in Europe studying music to return home, where, she says, the instruction is good and the chances of getting a husband better.

The House committee have reported bill giving colored people a separate school in the District of Columbia.

Gen. Fitzhugh Lee has begun to write history of the campaigns of Lee's army.

Mrs. Clara M. Bisbee, a student at Harvard divinity school, has been installed pastor of a Boston church.

The Chinese of San Francisco are somewhat alarmed about the meetings being held by the citizens to express their views on Chinese emigration question.

Nevada will unite with California in expressing her opinion on the Chinese emigration question. The Governor of that State has issued a proclamation asking them to do so.

The preparation of the indictments in star route cases has been completed.

The Department of Agriculture puts the losses of cotton by caterpillars last year at 300,000 bales.

Baldwin, the cashier, is to be made Librarian of the State prison at Trenton. They want to give him a chance to turn over a new leaf.

The public debt, less cash in the treasury is seventeen hundred and fifty millions dollars; but that Arrears of Pensions has created another debt of fourteen hundred millions.

Tiffin, Ohio, has three female lawyers, the latest edition being Miss Edith Samson, who has formed a partnership with Miss Florence Cronise, under the firm name "Cronise & Sams, Attorneys at Law."