



R. N. SUTHERLIN, Editor

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It is a noticeable fact the world over that people seldom prepare for winter until it is upon them. Montana has had a delightful autumn and a real arctic wave did not strike us until Sunday last. Yet it is safe to say that the majority of our people are still unprepared for it. They will now set to work in earnest to keep jack frost out, and well they may, although when the first snow falls upon dusty roads, as is the case this time, we do not anticipate a severe winter. Still it is well to prepare for the worst. Another week will probably give us sunshine, but it won't be any detriment to be prepared for a long cold spell.

Are times really hard or is the present murmur we hear on all sides the outgrowth of the so-called higher civilization which the railroad has brought about? Times are harder than they were a few years ago we are well aware. Everything is lower and it takes a great deal of produce to bring a little money, and people have to economize. Times are not really so hard as one would suppose from the complaint that is heard on all sides. This matter of murmuring becomes chronic with people sometimes—it has been so with the people of the States for years—and they grumble at everything—grumble often when there is no occasion for it; and we believe that this is, in a great measure, what is the matter with the people of Montana. Only the other day we heard a farmer say he had just given away a load of pork to our butchers. Further inquiry elicited the information that his gift had been given in consideration of ten cents per pound—a very fair price. But he had become so in the habit of grumbling that he was unwilling to allow himself to believe that he had done well from his sale, and we believe that one-half of the discontent we hear is more due to the chronic habit than to the real stringency of the times.

Our people should not be discouraged at the outlook of affairs. The low prices of some commodities may necessitate more diversified husbandry, but we can see nothing upon which the farmer can hinge an excuse for giving up the fight. Flour, to be sure, is low; but the Territory is returning again to the use of the Montana product, which means better prices another year. Oats which is now low, with the progress of development and improvement of wheat lessening its production, will also become higher. Pork cannot fail to remain good since the rates of freight between this and the corn producing sections of the States, and the price of commission for handling will always make a good margin for the Montana farmer. Beef, the leading product of the nation, promises to hold its own; and, if wheat and oats should not improve as we anticipate, prosperity is still within the grasp of our farmers, since they can convert their farm produce into beef and pork. The farmers of no other country have superior advantages to those of Montana. The farmers of the older States have long been compelled to feed their products to hogs and bees and consider it no hardship. Here we have the advantage of a local market in our mines; and, should these fail, will have the same alternative the State's farmer depends upon—that of feeding stock. Certainly if farming can be made to pay in the States where every animal must be fed or pastured within an enclosure from its birth until it is butchered, it will here where we have so much range and such superior facilities for growing a crop.

The gubernatorial question seems to be bothering the newspaper mind of Montana more than all the others at this time; and well it may for it is a most important one. Nearly every prominent Republican in the Territory has been spoken of as likely to succeed to the position and one or two Democrats have also been mentioned. But it is not at all probable that any but a Republican will be appointed, and in justice to the gentlemen who have kept alive and built up the Republican party in the Territory should not be. It may be expected that the Democrats will have a show after the fourth of March; but until such time the office belongs to the Republican party. Of the gentlemen of this party mentioned we know of none we would rather see warming the governor's chair than the old Republican war horse, Wilbur F. Sanders, or our esteemed brother of the quill, James H. Mills. Either of these gentlemen would perform the duties of the office well, and both are representative Republicans, and having been with the Territory since its birth, none are more deserving. Coming as it does just on the eve of a legislative session, it is certainly very important that a Montanian should be appointed. To appoint a man from the States would certainly be a calamity to the

Territory, since he would know nothing of the necessities of the country and the veto power in his hands would not be conducive of the greatest good to the greatest number. The appointment of a Montanian would be in keeping with the sentiment expressed in each of the national platforms, and it stands to reason that a Montanian of ten or twenty years' residence in the Territory, would make a better governor than a stranger.

HELENA'S GOLD.

A hasty glance at the showlog which our banks make in the handling of gold and silver will convince the most incredulous that our surrounding mines are doing a splendid business. The thousands of dollars worth of gold and silver which flows through our banks makes so little noise and stir in the ordinary avenues of life that few have any idea of its extent. A common dray, delivery or beer wagon makes more noise and attracts more attention than the receipt and shipment of \$100,000 worth of gold. The different effects of the two on the financial status of our city is too evident to all to need extended comment. Unless one goes and inquires at the banks, he would hardly dream that seventy-odd lots of gold dust, in all 1,130 ounces, amounting to \$18,645, have been received at the First National Bank of Helena since November 19th. Yet this is the case, and this is a small part of their business in this line. Most of this was received from the Coeur d'Alene country. Since November 5th they have received from the Boston & Montana, \$38,990 from the Elkhorn \$12,800 in gold. Within the last month the Helena Mining & Reduction company has shipped over 5,100 bars, or over 650,000 pounds of base bullion. The expenses of this company, including dividends paid, are over \$100,000 per month. That the company is doing a splendid business is shown by the payment of two dividends in a little more than a month. It takes no great stretch of the imagination to understand that the receipts of the company are very large and doing a most handsome business.

The Merchants National Bank received last evening from the Drum Lummon eight bars of bullion worth about \$10,000. We are informed that shipments of this kind are made about twice a week from the Drum Lummon. It is easy to compute the enormous amount which would be received at this rate in the course of a year. This is from one mine alone. Large quantities are received from other smaller mines tributary to the city.—*Independent.*

TERRITORIAL.

The military authorities of Fort Keogh have determined to sink artesian well. The commissioners of Custer county, at their last session, agreed to accept \$10,688 from the Northern Pacific railroad company, in payment of taxes due the county on rolling stock of the road, the courts having decided that the lands, track, etc., of said road were exempt.

The official canvass of the votes for delegate gives Joseph K. Toole 199 majority. Jas. L. Dunkley, of Miles City, committed suicide one day last week by shooting himself. Financial embarrassment is said to have been the cause of the act.

The grand jury of Deer Lodge county, says the *New North West*, have reported, recommending the erection of a fireproof building and vault for the clerk's office and records in lieu of a court house to cost about \$8,000.

Twenty-six furnaces at Anaconda are now turning out matte, the twelve new furnaces having been started up. From thirty to forty carloads of ore are taken down from the mine daily.

In the Helena district court, John Edmunson was convicted for stealing horses and his sentence is twelve years' imprisonment. The jury in the case was out thirty-six hours. Edmunson's wife and children have gone to their former home in the east.

News has just been received from Golden City, B. C., that a commercial traveller named Baird was killed and robbed of \$4,500 near that place. A large number of men are in hot pursuit. Eddy, Hammond & Co., for whom Baird was travelling, offer a reward of \$1,000 for the capture of the murderers.—*Herald, 11th inst.*

Wednesday evening, at about half-past 8 o'clock, a fire broke out in the office of the Dexter mill. A number of employees and citizens were soon on hand fighting the flames, in which they were partially successful, but not until considerable damage was done to the furnaces and about 300 bushels of charcoal had been burned. The office safe fell through the floor, but the contents were not damaged by the heat. The loss will be something over \$1,000; no insurance. The building is the property of W. A. Clarke.—*Miner.*

We regret to learn that Mrs. Ada Roberts, nee Bostwick, recently sustained a serious accident while endeavoring to lasso a wild horse. We trust the injuries sustained will not prove permanent.—*Courier.*

We learn that within the past few days, that a very rich strike has been made in the "Colorado Chief" mine at Silver Hill, which is located about fourteen miles southwest of Butte. The vein is described as being twelve feet wide. An assay made in Butte, shows 359 ounces silver and ten dollars in gold to the ton. The mine has been bonded to Colorado parties.—*Miner.*

Henry M. Horton, Joseph C. Putnam, Anthony Chaffin, Amos Chaffin and Oliver

C. Cooper are going to build a toll road from Wm. Edwards' place in the Upper valley, up the South Fork of the West Fork of the Bitter Root, the object being to make a good road to the mining camps in northern Idaho and thus open up a market for Bitter Root productions. A fair quantity of supplies have always gone over the Bitter Root range, but with the road kept in good order all the time the exports would be largely increased.

The Northern Pacific railroad company forbid the cutting of mining timbers on its lands in Deer Lodge county.

The *Herald* mentions that the walls of the Riota hotel (four-story), which were commenced on the tenth of November, are now complete, the roof on and the inside progressing rapidly. All this done in one month.

Messrs. Hindley & Preuit have received by tank from the government propagating house, in charge of the United States fish commission at Washington, about 100 live little carp, which will stock a fish pond on their farm in the Prickly Pear valley, about six miles from Helena.—*Independent.*

At the Parrott an experiment is being made (resulting successfully, too,) with a new device for extracting copper from the ore, the patent right for which, in the United States, is owned by Mr. Farrell, one of the heavy stockholders of the Parrott. The new process is to smelt the ore by the use of superheated air, no fire touching the ore. By this method the ingot copper is produced direct, and so economically that if the new smelter works as well in actual use as it does in experiment, Montana copper can be laid down in New York for several cents less than the present prevailing prices, thus working a complete revolution in the copper industry. Copper men, as a general thing, however, are disposed to lack confidence in the practicability of the new scheme.—*Inter-Mountain.*

GENERAL NEWS.

A candy factory was burned at Detroit on the 12th inst. Three girls were burned to death, and one was dangerously hurt by falling from the fire escape.

Gen. Sheridan will be marshal of the day for the celebration of the completion of the Washington monument.

At Baltimore on the 12th inst, a number of negro fishermen were caught out in a storm and perished.

An Indian Territory dispatch reports a tragedy at Cany creek. Geo. Christy fatally shot Sanders, son of Senator Sanders of the Cherokee counsel. Christy is highly excited.

On the 12th inst. the House evening session passed ten pension bills, including one granting a pension of \$90 a month to Emma Delong, and adjourned until Monday.

A fire at New Bedford, Mass., December 12, destroyed \$150,000 worth of property.

The cigar manufacturers and dealers of Chicago and New Orleans have held a meeting, protesting against the ratification of the treaty between the United States and Spain.

Recently there was a duel between two cowboys in Idaho, opposite Assulin, W. T. The duelists tied their left hands together, and fought with their knives until both fell dead. One received twelve stabs and the other seventeen. The fray was witnessed by friends of both men.

It is stated that the natives of Dongola have little confidence that the British expedition will be successful and they positively refuse to accompany the English force beyond Merani on any conditions.

General Miat further telegraphs from Madagascar that on the 6th inst., after a march of fifteen hours, he captured the second fort south of Delmar. He also captured five guns from the Hovas, 200 of whom were slain. The French loss was four wounded.

A dispatch from Oessa, says: The Turkish atrocities in Macedonia are increasing. Two hundred Christians have been massacred within the past two weeks and three villages burned.

A dispatch from HongKong says: The affairs at Kulung and in Tonquin remain in a *statu quo*. General D'Almeida threatens to resign the command in Tonquin unless he be re-inforced. Each mill steamer brings more Germans for the Chinese military and naval service.

One hundred and twenty-six Germans have already entered the Chinese service. For some months past the subject of the admission of American pork in Germany has remained in *statu quo*. The prohibition imposed by the imperial decree of March 6, 1883, is still existing. The German market meanwhile having been effectively closed to the American product. Hostile measures in Germany having recently been threatened against American petroleum, a powerful combination of the two interests is now being formed looking to a decisive and determined stand by the new administration and the new congress in regard to both of these essentially important exports.

There were twenty-one deaths from cholera in Paris last week.

The deficit shown by Russia's budget amounts to 22,000,000 mas.

John Shaffer, a day-laborer in Pittsburg, has inherited a fortune of \$150,000 by the death of his nephew.

The situation at Port Huron, Ont., where Italian Railroad laborers are on a strike, is still threatening.

The Egremont mystic at Springfield, Mass., was quoted by the opening of Estella Newman's grave, and firing the body undisturbed.

Kate Sminsley, of Fortrain, N. Y., who fasted 285 days, has begun to take small

quantities of food daily, and is gaining flesh.

Miss Annie Broderick, of Portland, Or., has brought suit to recover \$25,000 from Ira B. Sturgis, a prominent business man, for breach of promise.

Advices from Lisbon report the formation of the Portugal-African company, with a capital of \$500,000.

In a cotton future case in the supreme court, at Raleigh, N. C., they decided that such a contract was valid.

By the recent rise of the rivers 9,054,000 bushels of coal were shipped from Pittsburg, Cincinnati and Louisville.

Francis D. Moulton's will bequeaths all his real and personal property to his widow, and appoints her executrix.

Major Chauside, after remaining at Suakin several days, in order to negotiate with the friendly chiefs for a supply of runners, proceeds to Monwah and Senheit.

A private dispatch received at New York from Vienna, says the suspension of the mortgage company caused a great panic on the Vienna bourse, and shares had from 70 to 30 florins. Many banks are embarrassed.

The official trial of the boilers and machinery of the United States ironclad monitor Puritan at Chester, Pa., has been completed. The test was highly satisfactory.

The tariff committees in the chamber, refuse to increase the duties on rice, maize, and oil seeds.

La France says the Chinese commanders have been commanded to suspend hostilities.

Great destitution among farmers on cleared lands in Upper Michigan is reported. Men have put all their money in buying land. The stumps are so thick that but little cultivation can be done in many places.

At San Francisco last Saturday Governor Stanford's four-year-old filly, Sallie Benton, trotted a mile to rule in 2:17. This beats the 4-year-old record.

The Paris chamber of deputies passed the navy estimates coupled with a recommendation urging the building of swift cruisers and torpedo vessels, and in speedy completion of large men-of-war.

An Indianapolis dispatch says: In the *Blaine-Sentinel* suit, in the Federal court December 13, John C. Shoemaker, president of the *Sentinel*, filed an affidavit asking that further proceedings be stayed until the plaintiff has answered the interrogatories which were filed with the amendment bill of discovery. The suit was set for trial December 22, and Judge Woods will probably rule on Monday on the request for a stay of further proceedings.

There will be a great meeting of Orangemen at Belfast on the 5th of January, on the occasion of the Wycliffian centenary, which will be celebrated throughout north Ireland.

The *Telegraphe* is informed that the three torpedo boats which were built in England and sent to Australia were thence forwarded to Shanghai for service in the Chinese navy.

At the funeral of Bastian Lepage, December 12, many English and American residents placed wreaths upon the coffin, Meissouier, Cabanel and other artists were present at the ceremony.

Herbert Bismarck will shortly enter the German foreign office as Under Secretary.

The deficit shown by the Prussian budget amounts to 2,200,000 marks.

A Berlin dispatch states that the White Book just issued shows that Germany has assumed protection over Ludritz's territory on the coast of Africa after England had refused to protect it, and that Count von Munster, German Ambassador at London, was instructed with reference to Germany's refusal to recognize the annexation by Captain Coloupe of the coast as far as Walfish Bay, and to pursue such a policy as would prevent the impression that Germany would sacrifice her vital interests to the desire to remain on amicable terms with England.

In the last dispatch it is stated that England would hail Germany as a neighbor in southwest Africa, and that she claims sovereignty only over Walfish Bay and the adjacent islands, and accepts the proposal of the appointment of a commissioner to settle the claims of the disputed territory.

In an Italian vessel transporting immigrants to South America, cholera broke out and twenty passengers died.

A New York dispatch dated December 12, says: For cotton goods the demands continue with much steadiness, prices are hardening and Wamsutta bleached cotton advanced $\frac{1}{2}$ cent, and outside of a moderate business in shirting prints, in the other departments there has been very little.

At Chattanooga last Monday six convicts working in a coal mine on Coal creek made a break for liberty. The guards fired upon them, killing Samuel Musica and Joe Wilson, and fatally wounded John Presswell and Hugh Stafford. The other two were recaptured.

On the 13th inst. the conferees upon the bill for the forfeiture of the Atlantic and Pacific land grant held their final meeting today and disagreed. The conferees refused to assent to any provision which would send the question to the courts.

The Secretary of the Navy received a telegram last Monday from Rear Admiral Davis, at Nagasaki, announcing a revolution in Corea, and stating that the United States vessels Trenton and Ossipee would go there immediately.

In London the sentence of Captain Dudley and mate (Stevens) of the *Elgonette* cannibals, was commuted from hanging to six months' imprisonment without labor.

A Marseilles dispatch of the 13th says: Many counselors of the department of the Bouches and Drome demand the convoking in extraordinary session the of general council to protest against the proposed increase of duty on foreign cereals.

A Brussels telegram says: Humback, ex-minister of war, resigned the presidency of the liberal association, owing to dissensions.

The latest Cairo advices say that the Nile expedition is advancing with great rapidity. Gen. Wolsley thinks that with favorable winds the forces will arrive at Ambukal much sooner than was anticipated. It is reported that the Madhi's tent is constantly surrounded by a triple line of guards. He is harassed by a fear of being poisoned. His favorite wife and daughter prepare his food.

Vice President Oakes, of the Northern Pacific road, announces that annual and time passes expiring by limitation Dec. 31 will be honored to Jan. 15. Trip passes of all kinds will expire with 1884.

The Manitoba general freight office reports that for the three months ending with November the road handled 24,000 cars of wheat, making 13,500,000 bushels. There are reported 9,000,000 bushels of wheat the line in addition to what farmers are holding.

George S. Baxter will be appointed assistant treasurer of the Northern Pacific road, to take effect Jan. 1. Mr. Baxter has been with the company in the treasurer's office for over a year, and was formerly in the same office of the company at New York. He is an expert accountant, and capable of filling any position with honor.

Jerome Blanton, a farmer, killed a highwayman near Malden, Mo., and the neighbors celebrated the event by burying the robber in a blood-red coffin.

The St. Louis *Globe-Democrat* news editor who has just fallen heir to \$100,000 was the fellow who headlined a brace of negro executions, "Chocolate Drops."

The international monetary commission at Rome has concluded its sittings. The proposal of America to suspend the coinage of silver was not discussed.

New York physicians unite in denouncing as untrue the report that there is an epidemic of diphtheria in that city.

A hundred hosiery operatives have left Nottingham, England, for America, where places are already engaged for them.

At Pittsburg December 12 a preliminary meeting of labor leaders, including representatives of the Amalgamated association, Coal Miners' association, Glass Workers' association, and Typographical union, was held tonight for the purpose of forming a national labor league. Another meeting will be held next week.

A shoemaker at Joytheville, V., a few days ago wrote President-elect Cleveland asking for his measure for a pair of boots for the inauguration. Governor Cleveland replied in a polite note, enclosing a \$20 bill for the boots. The shoemaker returned the money, but the governor insisted on paying and sent the money back, adding that he would wear the boots on inauguration day.

The Spiritual temple at Boston nearing completion is a remarkable edifice, which would not be mistaken for an orthodox church, nor for a hotel, nor for a theatre, nor for a school, nor for a museum, nor for a railroad depot. It partakes in appearance of some characteristics of each of these.

Amusements are necessarily few in the Michigan State prison, and two light-hearted convicts relieved the dullness of their life by holding a companion's head in a furnace door to burn his hair off.

Three cases are reported to the French Association for the Advancement of Sciences of immediate cure of paralysis agitans by means of hypnotic suggestion. The patients had become unable to write legibly, but when the affirmation was made to them emphatically during sleep that they could write as well as other people, they did so forthwith and retained the power after awaking. M. Liebault showed specimens of the hand writing as produced before, during, and after the hypnotic sleep, and said he had obtained like results during several years of practice.

A handsomely framed copy of the wax counterpart of the floral wreath sent by Queen Victoria to be placed on Garfield's coffin has been presented to the martyred president's family.

Canadian manufacturers in Windsor, Walkerville, and Sarnia having a large correspondence are in the habit of posting all their letters at Port Huron, across the river, because the postage on a letter from any part of the United States to Canada is only two cents, whereas in Canada it is three.

Several papers in Oregon take wheat in payment for subscriptions, for advertisements, and their prospectuses read about like this: "The Star of Empire will be sent to any address for five bushels of No. 1 winter wheat. We have no use for any other kind. Reading notices inserted at the rate of two bushels an inch. Come on, noble farmers; our bin is nearly empty."

An Arizona paper is responsible for the story that a case of love at first sight of a photograph is about to culminate in marriage. The gentleman is a well-to-do merchant of Tombstone, while the bride is an English girl of good family, who is now on her way to this lawstew country to meet her Adolphus.

The poet Whitier's prophecy, that, while "the Prohibitionists killed the Republican party and the temperance cause at the same time, there will be a resurrection of both," will have its rich fulfillment in the appointed season. The Republican party is no more to be destroyed by treachery than the cause of temperance reform by bigoted fanaticism.

An explosion in a well 150 feet deep, at Buffalo, caused by a lowered lamp, has led to the leasing of several hundred acres of neighboring land by Bradford oil men, who believe that oil is to be found.