



R. N. SUTHERLIN, Editor

W. H. SUTHERLIN, Associate Editor

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In calling the attention of our readers to our Christmas edition we would say that in size it is no larger than usual—situated as we are, remote from Railroads, it would be altogether to expensive to secure an extra force of men to set up a double-sized paper—neither do we claim for it that it is superior in quality to many others, issued during the year. But we do claim that it averages with the publications—political, agricultural, or otherwise—printed outside of the eastern cities, and compares favorably with the majority of metropolitan journals. Nearly every line in it is original, entirely practical and devoted exclusively to Montana husbandry. Embracing as it does, experience in Montana farming and stock raising, for a period of nineteen years, it discusses these matters from an intelligent standpoint. Every department of agricultural industry from the farm, the fireside and household, to the range and plains where the wandering shepherd, and festive cowboy, reigns supreme, is fully represented. We ask our readers to examine it carefully, and if it seems to them to be fully alive to the issues of the day, and a credit to the Territory, that they show it to their friends and neighbors, and induce them to lend it whatever support it may seem to merit. Free and fearless, owing no allegiance to any party, clique, individual, or corporation, and tending to neither wealth or power, the ROCKY MOUNTAIN HUSBANDMAN will continue to be as it has been, the unbridled exponent of the right and faithful chronicler of events as they transpire.

TO-DAY we celebrate as the eighteen hundred and eighty-fourth anniversary of the time when the angels appeared unto the shepherds of Palestine, and announced the birth of a savior of the world. But whether or not this is the day upon which Christ was born, is not known. For the first four hundred years after the event it was supposed to have transpired in April or May; but since that date the twenty-fifth of December has been recognized as the time, and has been universally celebrated in every age by feasting and dancing, the giving of presents, and in some ages has been the beginning of a holiday that lasted from one to five weeks. But it matters not whether the birth of Christ was in December or May. The present time is the most convenient season for observances, such as feasting, dancing, and merry-making, as are handed down to us by the generations that have gone before. And neither Christian, Jew, Pagan, or Infidel, can urge against the event as celebrated. Nature demands a holiday, a year of toil, the reward of a feast, while to the little folks is due the presents, tokens, etc., they receive for their efforts to do right, and to one and all such merry-making as the fullness of their hearts may dictate. Then let the people of Montana banish care from their minds; let bygone troubles sleep in the oblivion of the past, and awaken in their hearts the finest emotions of which nature is capable—open their purses to the poor, unlock their storehouses to themselves, and eat drink and be merry.

The proposition before congress to stop the colage of silver, is awaking widespread interest throughout the great West, and well it may, for it is a matter fraught with great interest to the Territories and the States of Colorado and Nevada, the silver producing region of America. Such a step, it is estimated, will reduce the value of silver from fifteen to twenty per cent. This will close a large number of our mines and greatly retard the progress of the country. Silver mining is a vast industry and affords employment to a large number of men. The majority of the mines worked produce a low-grade ore that will hardly pay for mining and reducing, and any reduction in the value of silver would render it impossible to work many of these and operations would necessarily have to suspend. We fail to see what the nation is to gain by the Buckner bill, but we can readily see what the West is to lose. In Montana our mining industry is a great source of revenue. Putting into circulation from seven to ten millions per annum, is no small item, and the cutting of this down at least one half will be severely felt. And the people of the west who have with a dint of energy and perseverance unequalled in the pioneer history of our country, planted out a civilization, built railroads and metropolitan cities, and established mighty commonwealths in these mountain wilds, should rise in their majesty and might, and stay, it possible, the ruthless hand that is being laid upon their property. Our national legislators seem to have but little regard for the people who have hewn down the wilderness, turned the great American desert into gardens, farms, and pasture fields, and built these

great and almost impenetrable mountains full of shining cities and set them teeming with industry, who have tamed the Indian warrior and set the Indian question once and for ever at rest, or they would not so covet their progress. They even begrudge them the use of the wild domain as a pasture, and jealous of their success, ask to reduce the value of the products of our mountains. May the united voice of the people from the plains to the Pacific, rising as if from one man, stay the hand of the destroyer, and save to this region the wealth and prosperity for which its people have endured every hardship of pioneer life and braved every danger of savage warfare, and which is their just heritage.

DESTRUCTIVE FIRE IN BROOKLYN.

The Catholic Orphan Asylum and Many Inmates Burned.

NEW YORK, December 18.—The Catholic male orphan asylum, at St. Mark's and Albany avenues, Brooklyn, burned this afternoon, and it is feared some of the children perished in the flames. The Sisters in charge think all escaped, but cannot tell until the register of the boys is called. The little fellows are now scattered about in care of the resident of the neighborhood. The fire started in the drying room, which adjoined the southern end of the main building. This drying room also contained the boilers and heating apparatus, with the donitory on the third floor, in which there were sixty orphans, suffering from various complaints. Sister Mary Josephine, who was in the donitory at the time the fire broke out, made heroic efforts to save the little ones. She remained in the room until absolutely driven out by the flames, then she ran to the window where she stood until Fireman McGroarty, of engine 14, from the roof of a building, swung his coat to her. The Sister caught the coat, but when McGroarty tried to pull her from her perilous position she lost her grip and fell to the ground. She struck upon her shoulders and head. She was conveyed to St. Catharine's Hospital in an unconscious condition. Joseph Ryan, a boy, tried to descend by a ladder from the same (third) floor. He got within eight feet of the ground when the ladder parted. He received severe injuries. John McGrath (eight years old) jumped from the third story, and was badly injured. Mother Dechaunt and Sister Anthony were in the office when the fire was discovered. They at once gave the alarm and proceeded to get the youngsters out of the building. There were 785 orphans in the main building, which is also known as St. John's Home. They were told to leave home and seek shelter in any neighboring house until called for. There was great excitement among the inmates. Hundreds of the little fellows ran out into the falling snow ballous and coatless. The flames spread with great rapidity, and the buildings were almost completely destroyed. The asylum and grounds occupied the entire block. The asylum building was 210x150 feet, three stories with Mansard roof and constructed of bluestone. There was a very large water hydrant in the yard, with four butts, but there was no hose in or about the building, or any other means of extinguishing fire. Sorrowful began as a trivial accident ended in an awful tragedy. At the time the fire began, the larger boys in the institution were playing in the courtyard, making slides on the newly fallen snow or snowballing.

It was visiting day, and many of the parents of the children had come to see them. About thirty-five children were in the infirmary on the second floor, under the care of Sister Anthony. Their little wan faces were peering at the windows.

It is absolutely impossible to tell where the inmates of the institution can be found. In station houses, car stables and private homes the waifs found shelter.

Late this afternoon a list of the children was made up and 123 were unaccounted for. While it may turn out that not one of these is among the ruins, the fact remains that tons of burnt timber, warped iron and fallen bricks have not yet been removed, and may entomb many more corpses than have been recovered. The trustees of the Home have hired a force of men to continue the search until it is settled beyond question that there are no more bodies in the wreck of the building. In a room of the saved portion of the asylum proper are the bodies of those who have been found. They are tied up in sheets. Any effort to identify them would be perfectly useless. In that is only the story of the loss of life so far as is known. It is now known that the little patients were situated so as to be almost completely cut off from escape, and the flames shot rapidly upward, thus preventing egress by the lower party of the house.

Eddie McGrath, one of the kitchen boys, twelve years of age was going into wash cups when the fire broke out, he ran on and saved his little seven year old brother who was on the second floor. Speaking to a Union reporter, McGrath said there were seven boys in the infirmary on the third floor affected with the sore eyes, and about twenty-three sick with malarial fever. He said seven were unable to leave their beds and suggested the probability that they were the first victims. The children were received at the Home in various conditions. Most of them were orphans, and some half orphans. In addition to these, a few had been committed by police magistrates, when their parents were either incapable or unwilling to properly care for them. The boys forming the last-named class were in a

greater part unwilling inmates, and these, it is believed, compose mainly the missing 123. Having been set free by the fire they prefer to remain at large.

WHITE SULPHUR SPRINGS.

There are many who hear of the curative powers of this famous resort, who simply suppose that the noise about its medical qualities is all buncombe; that there are hundreds of Springs in the Territory and throughout America that possess equal medicinal virtues. But the marvelous effect of the waters here in so many cases establishes their superiority beyond a doubt, so far as present discoveries go. All manner of old chronic complaints, both of recent contraction and long standing, have been thoroughly cured here. All manner of rheumatism has also been cured. Diabetic, Bright's disease, and all kidney troubles have been treated with excellent results. Dyspeptics also find healing qualities in the waters, and after a residence of a few months here can eat anything. A great many other ailments also find relief here. These facts are fully sustained before the medical world by the following analysis of the waters:

Fixed Salts.....	1664
Sodium.....	.0258
Magnesia.....	90.178
Lime.....	.00254
Potassium.....	.00468
Chlorine.....	.01782
Bromine.....	Trace
Iodine.....	Trace
Lithia.....	.0008
Sesquioxide of Soda.....	.0007
Alumina.....	Trace
Silica.....	.00404
Carbonic Acid.....	.074
Sulphuric Acid.....	Trace

The accommodations of the place are such that these waters can now be administered successfully. The bath houses are very complete, and the hotels of the place, especially the one in connection with the Springs, are fully equipped for the care of the sick. And men and women from any clime, who are suffering from the ills that torture the flesh, may come and be healed.

TERRITORIAL.

L. W. Peck has built a residence at Great Falls.

The flouring mill at Great Falls is almost completed.

The people of Fort Benton are agitating the subject of building a flouring mill at that point.

Mrs. Mary Deimling has been confirmed post mistress of Virginia City. We congratulate the lady.

Butte city school district, which in the 1875, only had seven persons of school age now has 3,024 children.

Asst. Governor Tooker has pardoned John Judge, alias Sullivan, who was sentenced to ten years' imprisonment, by the court in Custer county.

The Utah Northern made connection last week the first time with the N. P. train taking passengers through from Butte to Helena without hindrance.

A fire occurred in one of the second-story sleeping chambers of Mr. N. J. Bielenberg's fine residence Tuesday, but was discovered and subdued before much damage was done.—New North-West.

Rev. Hugh Duncan, of Sheridan, preached in Glendale last Sunday. He also brought over two tons of gold ore from the Pedro mine. The parson thinks he has a mine worth millions in it.—Dillon Tribune.

David Terwilliger, of Horse Plains, was murdered in his cabin on Monday of last week. His body was found by deceased's neighbors, who state that from appearances he must have made a desperate struggle for his life.

Several persons have been arrested in the Yellowstone National Park for trespassing upon the reservation. The offenders had built ranches there. Yankee Jim is among the number held to answer the charge made by superintendent Carpenter.

The First National bank received yesterday \$7,000 in gold bars from the mines near Helena, and \$1,500 in gold dust from the Coeur d'Alenes. They have \$800 worth of nuggets, received from the Coeur d'Alenes, which they will have assayed.—Independent.

At the special election of Gallatin county, to fill the vacancy to the legislature occasioned by the death of W. H. Martin, H. M. Sloan, of Livingston, was elected by a large majority. Mr. Sloan was not a regular nominee of either party, but was brought up by the people of Livingston as a division candidate.

The residence of Mr. O. C. Rinker an extensive dairyman of Prickly Pear valley, was burned one night last week. There was no one at home and it is thought that the fire originated from the explosion of a lamp. The entire property was destroyed except a few articles which were taken out while the house was burning.

We last week enjoyed a few days' visit at the well regulated home of Mr. J. Kline. Mrs. Kline is a model house-keeper. We were regaled on fine jellies, preserves and currant wine of which she this fall made ten gallons. The fruit from which they were made was her own planting. Long may she live to enjoy the reward of her labor.—Missoulian.

Yesterday Dr. C. F. Mussigbrod, of Warm Springs, who has charge of the Territorial Insane Asylum at that place, was in town purchasing Christmas presents for the inmates at the asylum. It is the intention of the Doctor that every person connected with the asylum as well as the inmates, shall each have a Christmas present. The Doctor expended the sum of \$600 in the purchase yesterday.—Miner.

GENERAL NEWS.

It is stated that Dorsey gave Ingersoll \$100,000 for defending him in the Star route trials.

A fire in Davidson & Co.'s tin factory in Montreal caused a loss of \$50,000; insurance \$40,000.

An attaché of the British Legation has gone to Macedonia to report upon the situation there.

The Nihilists recently attempted to wreck a railroad train conveying the Czar to St. Petersburg.

Fire in Florence, Wis., burned three buildings on Main street, entailing a loss of \$7,000, well insured.

A father and son are under sentence of death in a Louisiana prison, and for separate and distinct murders.

Three Americans were arrested at Mayence, France, for having several boxes of dynamite in their possession.

Four men were burned to death in the store at Newark, Ark., where property valued at \$60,000 was destroyed.

Eads is in Washington to secure \$8,000,000 from the government for a channel from the Gulf of Mexico to Galveston harbor.

For the Garfield monument at Cleveland the people of the United States and of five foreign countries have contributed \$132,369.

An explosion in the building of the Metallic Cup company, Philadelphia, killed Superintendent G. M. Hughes, and George Owens, a boy.

The Schooner Harriet Ross, one of Commodore Berry's fleet, in the war of 1812, was sold for a debt at Chicago Tuesday, bringing \$360.

A petition addressed to Senator Dawes and Hoar, protesting against the ratification of the Spanish treaty, is being extensively circulated in Boston.

Sixteen lovely harem ladies belonging to the sultan have, by his permission, sent their photographs as a contribution to the beauty exhibition of Paris.

Albert Hawkins, who has been coachman for all the Presidents since Gen. Grant's time, has been retained for the same service under Grover Cleveland.

Preparations are being made throughout Germany to celebrate Bismarck's 70th birthday and the fifteenth anniversary of the chancellorship of the empire.

The second mate and boatswain of the ship J. F. Chapman, from San Francisco, were arrested at Liverpool on the charge of causing the death of a seaman named Jansen.

It is stated that Junner, the defaulting cashier of the Bank of Vienna, last week shot himself when a short distance outside of the city. Only 24 florins were found on his body.

The experiment which has been tried at the Alabama insane hospital during the past two years, of abolishing all mechanical restraints in managing the patients, is reported an entire success.

A Portland, Ore., telegram of the 18th inst., says the snow blockade continues and street cars have stopped running. No trains have arrived since Monday and none are expected until tomorrow.

The senate committee on railroads has ordered a favorable report upon the bill to extend the time for building railroad and telegraph lines through the lands of the Choctaw and Chickasaw nations.

The Cape Ann Advertiser's summary of disasters to the Gloucester fishing fleet the past year shows 16 vessels, valued at \$87,000 and 151 fisherman lost. The fishermen lost. The fishermen leave 50 widows and 66 children.

The striking miners attacked the guards at Murray City, in Hocking valley, Ohio, last Friday night and there was some sharp firing, when the patrol train brought relief to the guards. The miners were repulsed without any known loss.

William Blunt writes a letter to London which says the Peace association is certain. It could negotiate the same conduct for Gen. Gordon and the Khartoum garrison to Dongola, and could also secure a general pacification of the upper Nile region.

A Cheyenne special says: From Special Agent Sanborn, of the interior department, who has been in the Territory for several days past, it is learned that in obedience to the order from the department ranchmen all over Wyoming are removing their fences from public domain.

Judge Woods of Indianapolis positively refused to spread upon the records of his court the statement of James G. Blaine that a fair trial of his libel suit against the Sentinel could not be had in Indiana. The entry was therefore made that the case was voluntarily dismissed.

At Binghamton, N. Y. last Friday, Pinkerton arrested Geo. M. Proctor, formerly of the boiler shops, Susquehanna, who is said to be the ringleader of a \$40,000 robbery of the U. S. Express Company a year ago last June. Proctor is still in jail. Other arrests will soon follow.

A St. Louis dispatch says that owing to the general depression in trade caused by the closing of manufactories in all parts of the country, and the slow movement in grain, the railroads running east from here are doing scarcely more than halt the business done this time last year.

A London telegram dated the 19th inst. says: The steamer Oxeaholme, from New York for Liverpool, arrived at the Queens-town harbor on her beam ends. She experienced terrific weather and lost many head of cattle. The steamer is still on her beam ends. The heads and legs of dead and living cattle are seen protruding through the cattle pens and hanging over the side of the

vessel. The upper deck of the steamer is a confused mass of dead and living cattle. Many carcasses were thrown overboard and washed ashore. The steamer was towed ashore to prevent her sinking. Only five holds of cattle remain alive. Terrible weather is reported off the coast.

Lieut.-Gen. Sheridan, marshal of the day for the ceremonies attending the dedication of the Washington monument, has issued a general order announcing his chief staff: Brig. Gen. Albert Ordway, and as special aides-de-camp, Col. William J. Volkman, U. S. A., and Linden Kent.

A dispatch dated at Portland, Ore., Dec. 18, says: Lieut. Abercrombie of Gen. Miles' staff has just returned from Alaska where he has been engaged in government expeditions. He explored the Yukon river for 2,700 miles and reports rich placers for thousands of miles up, paying \$50 per day to the man. The season is short and mining difficult, and the fisheries the finest known.

Several Chinese *habus corpus* cases that had been brought before the U. S. circuit court of California prior to the day that the Secretary of the Treasury issued his order permitting Chinese who had lived in the United States before the treaty was signed to land. As the order does not cover these it is proposed to try them to see whether the law and the Secretary agree.

In Texas on Monday of last week the Mexican Central freight train was wrecked near Siloa by armed bandits. Much valuable merchandise was stolen. The robbers belong to a revolutionary anti-American party. The government and railroad officials succeeded in suppressing the news for a week. One report says the fireman was killed.

The Berlin Gazette intimates that Bismarck has decided to rest from his public duties. It argues that the obstructive policy of the opposition party in the reichstag develops itself, that it is better for him to consult his health and prepare for the inevitable conflicts of the winter session, which will be the result of this destructive policy, than to sacrifice his health by an honorable effort in a dishonorable struggle.

A telegram to the Adjutant General of the army from Gen. Stanley, commanding the department of Texas, reports that the United States forces who pursued the party of supposed Apache Indians who recently raided Western Texas from Mexico, returned after pursuing the raiders into the mountains of Mexico 100 miles. The American troops secured some horses that were stolen, and the commanding officers reports as his belief that the raiders were not Indians but Mexicans.

A New Orleans dispatch says that on the 19th inst. the British steamer Victoria, from Galveston with cotton and oil cake for Bremen and here to complete her cargo, was in collision at 6 p. m. with the steamer Fred A. Blanks, making an excursion trip to the Exposition. The Blanks sank in a few minutes. She had a number of passengers on board, but they were all saved as well as the crew. Capt. McNeeley, of the tug Corsair, remained alongside the sinking vessel until all were taken off. The Blanks was valued at \$100,000 and insured for \$25,000.

The joint commission in charge of the Washington monument has submitted to congress a report showing its progress during the past year. The report shows the weight of the monument is 81,120 tons, and it has cost \$1,187,710, of which congress appropriated \$887,710. In relation to the completion of the monument, the engineer in charge of the work submits a report with that of the commission. He says: "Two methods of treating the terrace at the foot of the shaft has been suggested. One method will require an appropriation of \$612,300 to complete the entire work, the other \$16,008 is desired." The joint commission favor the latter.

A Washington dispatch of the 18th says: After the adjournment of Congress this afternoon a number of Senators and representatives boarded a street car at the Capitol to ride down Capitol Hill. It was a very exciting trip, owing to the fact that the pavements were very slippery from snow. The cars were run down hill without horses, and the car upon which the congressmen were, in going down, attained too great a velocity and becoming unmanageable ran into another car immediately ahead. The shock of the collision threw down several of the congressmen, and one of them Representative Aemphill, of South Carolina, was stunned and had to be taken home in a carriage. Mr. Leedom, Sergeant at Arms, was also injured, being cut about the face.

A bill has been introduced in the senate amending the act of June 3, 1878, relating to the sale of timber lands in California, Oregon, and Nevada, and the Territory of Washington. The amendment permits land to be sold without reference to their fitness for cultivation, the original act requiring before such lands could be sold that they should be certified to be "unfit for cultivation." Another bill introduced by Dolph provides for amending sec. 2347, revised statutes, relating to the sale of vacant coal lands belonging to the United States. The original section fixes the price at \$25 an acre for lands of that character as may be within eighteen miles of a completed railroad, and \$10 an acre for those outside of that distance. The Dolph amendment proposes to reduce the price one-half in each case. Both of the bills were referred to the commissioner on public lands.

Robert T. Lincoln is said to be the choice of the Republicans of Chicago for mayor at the expiration of Harrison's term.