

Major Guido Ilges and mounted detachment (Co. B, 7th Infy.) returned from Fort Belknap this p. m. after a five days' absence. We are informed that the Major's expedition contemplated an investigation of the late killing of Gorman and Keesee, with a view to ascertaining the guilty parties.

While at Belknap the Major interviewed and cross-examined Little Mountain and Sport, the two Assinaboins who are connected with the trip of the two unfortunate men; both these Indians solemnly deny any guilt, and their account of their own doings and whereabouts seems plausible enough, were it not in direct contradiction of some evidence of three reliable white citizens, and this, too, in regard to a very essential point. It would hardly be fair to charge, with the present light upon the subject, this murder upon either the Assinaboins or Gros Ventres, but we have every reason to believe that the matter will not rest in this uncertain condition for many days, and that the murderer or murderers once ascertained, will be speedily hunted down, arrested, and brought to justice. Whenever informed by the proper authorities of the steps taken by them in this matter, we will lay them before the public, and trust that meanwhile a sense of fairness will prevent our justly indignant and outraged citizens from visiting vengeance upon suspected tribes, which may hereafter prove to be innocent.

On the morning of their departure from Belknap, the Major and party were reliably informed that six Assinaboins were on their way back to the agency with ten head of stolen horses, and that some of the horses were recognized as the property of Mr. Monroe, of Sun River.

Jerry Potts, from whom the Assinaboins stole thirty-five or more head of horses, a few weeks ago, accompanied Major Ilges and party to Belknap, where he recovered 15 head of the stolen stock, and has a fair prospect of getting the remainder as soon as he can establish his ownership. It is about time the Government ceased to treat these thieving Indian scoundrels as pets, shielding them from the action of the law which should apply to every horse thief in the country.

Arrivals at the Overland.

MAY 5.—W. J. Toyer, Sun River; F. Walrath, Sun River; D. W. Buck, Ft. Peck; M. C. Thum, Ft. Peck; Wm. Rowe, Ft. Peck.

MAY 6.—Abel Farwell, Cypress Mountains.

MAY 8.—Boisoncault, Helena;

MAY 10.—H. M. Brown, Whoop Up; C. M. Brown, Whoop Up; George Theodore, Whoop Up; L. I. Williams, Whoop Up; O. W. Dexter, Ft. Brulle; Wm. Muth, Helena; John Hathaway, Helena; John A. Quirk, Helena;

MAY 14.—J. J. Phelps, Ft. Claggett; W. A. Ferris, Ft. Claggett.

MAY 15.—J. A. Ford, Highwood; John Goewey, Sioux City; F. A. Cummings, Helena.

W. S. Wetzell & Co. have purchased T. w. Hardwick's livery stable, for the sum of \$2,040.

There is an unconfirmed rumor in town, which originated, we believe, at the 28-mile Springs, that three murdered men were found in the pass between the Highwood and Little Belt mountains.

AN INSTITUTION OF THE COUNTRY. The Montana Steam Cracker Company, North Main Street, Helena, has become one of the institutions of the country and deserving of patronage. They manufacture just what is needed in this section: Hard Tack, Soda, Butter, Pic-Nic, Milk, and Sugar Crackers, Ginger Snaps, &c., and deal in Flour, Grain, Assorted Merchandise, and Bakers' Goods generally. Send to Lockey Bros. for anything you want.

A rich specimen of gold dust, brought from the Cypress Mountains by two residents of Benton is now on exhibition at I. G. Baker & Co.'s store. It is stated that the dust was found near a warm spring, in the neighborhood of which there are many indications of rich gold diggings. If the story is true, and we have no reason to believe that it is not, there is likely to be a stampede to the Cypress Mountains this summer; in fact, it is said that a company is now secretly organizing in Benton and will leave for her Majesty's dominions at an early date.

It is now generally believed that Gorman and Keesee were murdered by Little Mountain, with the assistance, perhaps, of another Assinaboin Indian named Sport. The Gros Ventres deny that any member of their tribe committed the murders, they are anxious to remain upon friendly terms with the whites, and would willingly assist the latter to punish the Assinaboins and capture the murderers. The Assinaboins have fled towards Belknap, while the Gros Ventres have moved nearer to Benton.

Benton was recently favored with a visit from Mr. Addison Smith, traveling agent for the Helena "Independent." The gentleman remained over one stage and left town on the morning of the 5th instant. We hope Mr. Smith enjoyed a pleasant and profitable call.

We are pleased to notice the unusual interest which the "Herald" and "Independent" have evinced in the welfare of this locality since the establishment of the RECORD at Benton. The "Herald" has probably published more steamboat items this season than ever appeared in the columns of that journal before. This is kind of our cotemporaries, but we hope they will not neglect home interests while looking after ours.

On the 8th instant two suspicious characters hailing from the capital of Montana suddenly appeared in Benton, stopped over night, and started down the river in a small, poorly constructed skiff, which they contrived to have built during the day. The conduct of the men indicated so strongly that they were fugitives from justice, that the authorities concluded to overhaul and search them. The boat was stopped at the coal banks, but nothing was found to justify their arrest. On the 11th instant, however, deputy sheriff McCue arrived

from Helena with authority to arrest the same parties for the murder of Frank Worrel. A party of soldiers and citizens immediately started in pursuit of the boat, and arrived at Clagget the next day, where they learned that the fugitives had left about fifteen hours previous, apparently in no hurry as they stopped at Clagget for several hours. The pursuing party procured a good boat, and again started after the supposed murderers, and will no doubt overtake them before they reach Carroll, as their boat was leaking badly when last seen, and they appeared to be unconscious or fearless of pursuit.

On the evening of the 10th inst., Mr. W. S. Stocking, one of our most enterprising citizens and prosperous farmers, gave a social entertainment at his pleasant home on the Teton. Office duties prevented us from accepting an invitation to the party, but we have learned from several sources that it was one of the most successful affairs of the kind ever held in this vicinity. It could not well have been otherwise, indeed, as the number of ladies and gentlemen who were present would have made the entertainment most enjoyable without the generous hospitality for which Mr. Stocking and family are noted.

Messrs John Bielenberg and Fred Loeber report an unconfirmed rumor on Sun River that Mr. Fred Kanouse, who was on trial here a couple of years ago, killed a man near Whoop-Up recently and was captured and hung the next day.—"New North-West."

There is not a word of truth in the above-mentioned rumor.

John Largent, of Sun River, having made all the improvements that the population of his own town will at present justify, is now desirous of letting Benton profit by his enterprise. During a recent visit he established a lumber yard in town and appointed our County Treasurer, Mr. John Hunsberger, as agent for the concern. Mr. Largent also proposes to build a boom across the river and float down cord wood. If the residents of Benton will build the boom at their own expense, they will be furnished with fuel at about half the price they were compelled to pay for a limited supply of green cottonwood last winter. If Mr. Largent has to stand the cost of the boom, he can not, of course, furnish wood at a very low rate. But in either case, we shall have a better quality of fuel, and for less money than we have paid heretofore.

It is probable that if the favorable stage of water in the Missouri this season had been foreseen, we should have had steamboats at Benton by the first of May. It is not uncommon for the river to rise even earlier than it did this year, but in former years it always fell again long before the June rise. This season, however, it has not, up to the present date, fallen more than a few inches, and as the second

rise must soon set in, we may confidently expect high water, until the snow in the mountains is exhausted. The oldest resident of this locality has no recollection of the Upper Missouri being so favorable to navigation during the first half of the month of May as it is this season.

RAILROAD COMMITTEE MEETING.

The Territorial Committee appointed by the Railroad Convention met on the 23d ult., when the following proceedings were had:

At a meeting of the Committee on Conference and Statistics, Granville Stuart was elected Chairman and W. J. McCormick, Secretary.

The duty of the Committee will be to collect the statistics of each county, embracing gold and silver quartz lodes, and placer mines; the number of lodes recorded, extent of development, the extent and approximate yield of placer mines in each county, the number, extent and capacity of mining and irrigating ditches and flumes, and capital employed in the same, extent of timber lands, coal lands, iron and copper mines, system of water courses and power, live stock, character and variety of vegetables, grain, and fruit, average yield of grain per acre, amount of wool and capacity for sheep growing, population, taxable property, rates of wealth to each inhabitant, climate, winds, rains, and snow, feed, mineral springs—hot and cold.

The people of every section of the Territory are earnestly requested to furnish, at the earliest possible moment, to the Committeeman of their respective counties, statistics on the above subjects and the newspapers of the Territory are requested to publish the above.

GRANVILLE STUART, Chairman.
W. J. McCORMICK, Secretary.

[The above was unavoidably crowded out of last issue. Residents of Choteau County are requested to forward statistics, as early as possible, to Mr. R. S. Ford, Sun River, M. T.]

Letters remaining at the Fort Benton Post Office, May 14, 1875.

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|-----------------|------------------|
| Allen, E W | Levois, D K |
| Atkins, Wm | Lynch, J |
| Bernard, A | Laughlin, P |
| Burton, C | Lavalley, D |
| Brown, E | Lador, A |
| Brown, J F | Nicholson, Mary |
| Cook, B | Norris, W E |
| Cunningham, w | Morgan, M D |
| Cronney W D | Nil, S C 2 |
| Chamberlain J A | Powel, H A |
| Cook, Fred | Price, E J 2 |
| Clark, J | Porter, Miss B 2 |
| Clark, L | Patao, C |
| Duncan, H | Robinson, G H 4 |
| Dubriel, A | Smith, J B |
| Ferris, S | Smith, W G |
| Fisher, N | Shearen, S |
| Flett, J J | Shobern, J |
| Grant (colored) | Sheffield Alice |
| Gessup, A | Spencer, F |
| Hackshaw, W J 2 | Thomas, C |
| Harris, J 2 | Troutman, G |
| Hand, M | Walcot, J E |
| Hall, S | Williams, J T |
| Hammond, G S | Williams, S S |
| Hawley, C G | Woolsey, E |
| Hale & Tillman | Wright, S D |
| Jones, E | Wood, R |
| Kenney, H J | Weaver, M |
| Kincaid M | Wilkey, B |
| King, W | Witherville, |

JOHN W. POWER, P. M.