

Murder on South Fork.

Mr. Fred C. Shepherd, of Florence, on the South Fork of Sun River, made us a pleasant call on Monday, and from him we learn the following particulars of the recent South Fork homicide at McMillburn & Ulm's sheep ranch: It appears that a sheep herder named Haley in the employ of the above named firm, on coming into camp with his herd of sheep on the evening of the killing, was met near the corral by Hank Gately, an employed and sort of sub-boss on the ranch, who proposed to feed the sheep, to which Haley objected, and while they were disputing about the matter they saw Mr. McMillburn coming toward them, and Haley said: "Here comes the boss and he shall say whether we shall feed the sheep or not." At that Gately ran to a wood pile close by, picked up a club, and returning struck Haley a terrible blow on the head with it. Haley had a Winchester rifle with him which he always carried to shoot or scare coyotes away from his flock, and as soon as he recovered from the blow dealt him, he pulled the gun on his assailant and shot him, the ball taking effect in or near the region of the heart, causing death in about an hour. Haley gave himself up to the authorities next day. A coroner's inquest was held over the remains, and a verdict of manslaughter in self-defence returned, which we think rather an original verdict for a coroner's jury to return. It appears that the Justice is at loss how to act in the matter, as he has written to Helena for instructions, keeping the prisoner in custody in the meantime. It seems to be the prevailing opinion that the killing was justifiable under the circumstances.—Sun River Sun.

The Winter's Losses.

For years the cry went up, "You can't raise herds in Montana and Dakota; it's too cold and stormy," and only after experience had over and over proven that the percentage of loss from exposure was far larger in Colorado, Nebraska and Wyoming than in the more northern but more adaptable territories, was the fallacy of the cry acknowledged. The present winter has been beneficial to stock men. Of course, there have been losses; but again, is it susceptible of proof that they are not as great as in more southern ranges? Snow did not cover the ground in Montana to a preventive depth until February 1st, and then it lasted only until the 20th of the month, when the chinook winds came, and the mantle disappeared in a day. The cattle had to "rustle" for their food only twenty days, therefore, throughout the winter. The cold was not more severe than usual, and the blizzards were infrequent. Careful computations give the loss by death of range cattle at 2 per cent. State cattle more susceptible to exposure died in greater numbers, but 10 per cent. is a large estimate of loss to be charged against them. The range cattle number 550,000 out of the total of 620,000, so that the aggregate loss would foot but 21,000. Many good judges say 15,000 is nearer the figure.—Independent.

There are worse foes than cold and snow to the timid bleaters. Wolves abound in Montana, and are more plentiful this year, particularly on the north side of the Yellowstone river and about O'Fallon creek, than for several seasons past. It is astonishing how the 'critters' multiply. A healthy she-wolf thinks nothing of raising a litter of five or six pups, and she can be counted on for two litters a year with disgusting regularity. Both cattle and sheep men pursue a war of extermination, poison, trap and rifle being called into aid in decimating the bands of predatory howlers. As population increases these foes of the domestic animals will disappear, and soon a wolf will be as much a rarity in Montana and Dakota as a full tined buck is in the Mille Laes woods.

Oysters! Oysters!

The last run of oysters is now for sale at Higgins & Ayres' vegetable market. There will be no more for sale in town until next fall. Send in your order at once.

Notice.

The Ward Conference Committees are requested to meet at the city hall March 22, at 7 p. m. for the purpose of arranging a time and place for holding the city convention.

T. C. POWER & BRO

Wholesale and Retail Dealers in

DRY GOODS,

NOTIONS, CLOTHING, HATS AND CAPS, BOOTS AND SHOES

Gentlemen's Furnishing Goods,

Furniture and Carpets of all Grades

Fancy AND Staple Groceries,

SHEEP MEN'S SUPPLIES, Wool Sacks, Sewing Twine Sheep Dip, &c.

NOTE:—We are Territorial agents for Ladd's Sheep Dip, warranted to cure any case of scab in sheep.

Wines, Liquors, Beer, Ale, Cigars and

BAR SUPPLIES!

Agricultural Implements,

Wood's Reapers and Mowers, Hapgood Plows! Twine Binders and Extras! Hay Rakes and Gardening Tools, all of the Best and Most Reliable Makes.

This year we will introduce the celebrated

COOPER WAGON.

Guaranteed the best made

Our stock in the above departments will all be complete on arrival of the first boats, and being selected with great care and shipped direct from eastern markets, we will be better prepared than ever before to offer

Inducements to the Wholesale Trade.

All our goods are bought from FIRST hands and in large quantities, and we propose to give dealers the benefit of

Low Prices and First-Class Goods.

We can furnish low figures on application on all kinds of Hardware, Glassware, Queensware and Woodenware.

Inspections and Orders Solicited.

T. C. POWER & BRO., Benton M.T.

PIONEER BOOK BINDERY

—AND—

BLANK BOOK MANUFACTORY

HELENA, MONTANA.

This house is prepared to execute every thing in the line of

Book Binding.

Books and Blanks of all descriptions Ruled, Printed, Numbered and Bound to any desired order.

GEO. E. BOOS,
Helena, Montaan.

PAY UP.

All persons knowing themselves to be indebted to W. S. Wetzel will please pay their accounts to me immediately.
DAVID G. BROWNE,
Assignee.

FOR SALE.

Two hundred choice beef cattle, in fine condition, will be sold in lots to suit purchasers. There are about four hundred head on the range to select from and all are fat and hearty and from three to five years old. Apply to
KENNEDY & KELLY,
Proprietors Centre Market.

CHOP HOUSE,

Front street between Baker and St. John.

Mrs. DENA MURRAY,
Proprietress!

—OPEN DAY AND NIGHT.—

Fresh Oysters served in any style.
BOARD BY DAY OR WEEK.

FIRST NATIONAL BANK

—OF—

Fort Benton, M. T.

CASH CAPITAL, (Paid up) \$100,000

SURPLUS, \$70,000

W. G. CONRAD, President
JOHN W. POWER, Vice-Prest.
E. G. MACLAY, Cashier.
R. A. LUKE, Ass't Cashier.

WE TRANSACT A General BANKING BUSINESS.

DIRECTORS:
S. T. HAUSER, T. C. POWER,
JOHN HUNSBERGER, C. E. CONRAD,
T. A. CUMMINGS.

BANK OF NORTHERN MONTANA

We Transact a General Banking Business.

Open current accounts with merchants, stockmen and others, subject to be drawn against by check without notice.

WE BUY NOTES AND PAY INTEREST ON TIME DEPOSITS

Make loans of money secured by personal endorsement. We buy and sell exchange on the commercial centres of the United States.

We will give Special Attention to the Business of Northern and Central Montana, will make such loans to stock men and farmers as are suited to their requirements.

Local Securities a Specialty. Collections and all other business entrusted to will receive prompt and careful attention.

COLLINS, DUEE & CO.

JOHN H. EVANS.

Brewery and Brewery saloon,
FRONT ST., FORT BENTON.

I am manufacturing and selling Beer of the best quality, bottled or by the keg. Delivered to families in all parts of the city. The Saloon is carrying the finest stock of wines and liquors ever brought to the Territory.

I. G. BAKER & CO.,

FORT BENTON, MONTANA.

NEW DEPARTURE.

Finding that our rapidly increasing sales are not allowing us to attend properly to all our former lines of trade, we have sold out our Hardware, Furniture and Queensware, and will confine ourselves to

GROCERIES,

Dry Goods Hats and Caps Clothing, Harness and Saddlery.
Boots and Shoes, Gents' furnishing Goods, Wooden and Willow Wares

We will also keep a full and well assorted line of **AGRICULTURAL IMPLEMENTS** and mention among others the famous

MITCHELL STEEL SKEIN WAGONS, STUDEBAKER SPRING WAGONS, MILBURN SPRING WAGONS,
MOLINE BREAKING and STIRRING PLOWS 12 to 16 inch SCOTCH HARROWS. GRAIN and WOOL SACKS.
CHAMPION REAPERS, CHAMPION MOWERS, TIGER HAY RAKES, DEIDRICK HAY PRESSES, MOLINE SULKY PLOWS, Jerseyville SULKY PLOWS, FANNING MILLS.

SPECIALTIES:

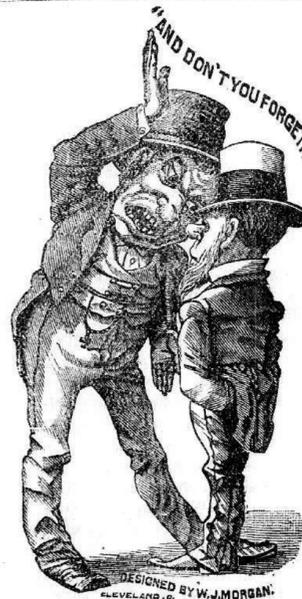
PEPER TOBACCO SHEEP DIP, LUG LEAF EXTRA STRENGTH, HAWKEYE THREE STRAND BARBED STEEL WIRE.

TENT AND WAGON COVERS, HAND and MACHINE MADE, all sizes.

We will ship the largest and most complete line of Groceries that ever came to Fort Benton for that trade. We have made our requisition for Fancy Shelf Goods very elaborate, and will undertake to furnish anything in that line that may be called for. Our facilities for filling orders are greatly improved, and all orders will receive prompt and careful attention. Owing our own steamboat transportation we will lay our goods down in Benton this year at one and a quarter cents per pound from Chicago and St. Louis, and we propose to give our customers the benefit of this low rate in prices on our goods. Having gone out of the Indian Trading business we will devote ourselves to the trade of Farmers and ranchmen, to whom we offer special inducements.

March

I. G. Baker & Co.



THE BEST IS THE CHEAPEST.

Aultman-Taylor

THRESHERS, HORSE-POWERS, PORTABLE ENGINES, TRACTION ENGINES, SAW MILLS.

W. O. DEXTER,
SOLE AGENT
Fort Benton and Vicinity.

Write W. O. Dexter, Fort Benton, M. T., for full information concerning these superior goods. Farmers and threshermen should not be deceived into buying inferior Machines. The

Aultman-Taylor is King

And none other should be Purchased

Centre Produce MARKET,

HIGGINS & AYRES, Prop's.

VEGETABLES, Poultry, Oysters, FISH, Eggs, Butter & Fruit,
On Main Street, Near Centre Meat Market.

Ranchmen and farmers who have produce for sale are invited to call on the new firm who will purchase from them at the highest market prices.

PACIFIC HOTEL,
BENTON, M. T.;

New Two-Story Brick (Built 1882.)

WELL FURNISHED

TERMS.—\$2.00 PER DAY.

Special rates by week or month. FIRST-CLASS BAR IN CONNECTION.

BENTON

MILK DAIRY

PATRICK MURPHY,
Proprietor.

Families, Hotels, and Public Entertainments supplied with

PURE MILK
Cream and Butter.