

# CHOTEAU HOUSE

New Hotel.

Thoroughly Refitted and Newly Furnished.

**SULLIVAN & HILL,**  
Proprietors.

Conducted on first-class principles. Everything new, neat and attractive. Feeling assured that we have the best accommodations offered by any house in Montana Territory, we respectfully solicit the transient and resident custom of Benton, believing that a trial will secure permanent patronage.

PRICES REASONABLE.

THE LARGEST AND BEST HOTEL IN CHOTEAU COUNTY.

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PHYSICIAN AND SURGEON,

—DEALER IN—

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PERFUMERY, TOILET ARTICLES.

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## LARGENT HOUSE,

Sun River Crossing,

ON HELENA AND BENTON ROAD.

A FIRST-CLASS TABLE,

And Well Furnished Rooms Sufficient for Any Requirements, at Reasonable Rates.

Superior Accommodations for Transient Custom.

The Traveling Public may be assured that people with families who are visiting Montana for the purposes of business or pleasure, and who may wish to remain for a length of time, will have better attention and accommodations than they will receive elsewhere outside of Helena.

**I. S. CORSON,**  
MANAGER.

### "THE ELITE"

Corner Front and Benton Sts.

FORT BENTON, - MONTANA.

A CHOICE LOT OF

Whiskies, Wines and Cigars

ALWAYS ON HAND.

L. T. MARSHALL, Proprietor.

The Elite is the most popular resort in the upper part of town. Drop in and have a friendly chat with Marshall.

AH SING,

Benton Wash House,

COR. MAIN AND ST. JOHN STREETS.

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Done with neatness and dispatch.

FAMILY WASHING SOLICITED.

# BENTON STABLES

**McDEVITT & WRIGHT,**  
PROPRIETORS.

LIVERY, FEED and SALE STABLE

Day and Night Herd. Horses Boarded by the Day or Week.

Saddle Horses, Light and Heavy Turnouts

FURNISHED ON SHORT NOTICE AND AT REASONABLE RATES.

### CAPITAL REMINISCENCES.

#### President Lincoln's Last Day on Earth.

At the close of an interview with President Lincoln, on the 14th of April, 1865, he asked me to accompany Mrs. Lincoln and himself to the theater that night, adding:

"General Grant intended to go with me, but has started North to visit his wife, and I suppose I must go, or the people will be disappointed."

But, having to see two Cabinet Ministers, Messrs. Dennison and Stanton, that evening on some Western matters they desired me to look into, while on my proposed stage-ride across the continent. I asked to be excused which I have never ceased since then to regret, as my habit of looking up, when doors are opened, might have saved his life, so precious to the nation and to mankind.

As I left the executive chamber Mr. Lincoln asked me to come up in the evening at half-past seven, for a half-hour's talk before he would have to go to the theater.

Mr. Lincoln walked into the parlor of the White House that evening with his wife, a few minutes before the time he had himself suggested. And I remember, as if it were but yesterday, how buoyant were his spirits, how firm his step, and that he seemed to have straightened out of the stoop in his tall form, for which the heavy weight of public cares in recent years had seemed responsible. Mr. Ashmun, of Massachusetts, (the president of the Chicago convention of 1860, which nominated him for President,) had stepped in to see him on business, for which Mr. A. was the attorney, and Mr. Lincoln greeted both of us with more than usual cordiality, and in a tone that indicated a thoroughly happy frame of mind.

A general conversation of nearly forty minutes ensued, of which the most striking feature was a satirical and severe commentary on "the tribe of claim agents," which Mr. Lincoln illustrated with a story. Seeing however, that Mr. Ashmun's face flushed, and that he seemed displeased, Mr. Lincoln said, quickly:

"Why, Ashmun, I did not mean it to be as you have taken it, and if I have offended you, let me take it all back, and apologize."

Which, of course, drove the frown from Mr. Ashmun's brow, and showed how, in the President's very last hours, he tried to avoid wounding a valued friend's feelings. Promising Mr. Ashmun a special interview on his business "early to-morrow"—the to-morrow that, alas! was to find him returning to the White House cold and lifeless—he discussed several immaterial subjects in a vivacious manner, which illustrated what a load of care had been lifted from his mind and heart by the auspicious condition of the national cause.

The clock on the mantel-piece had struck eight, the theater hour, and the President still continued talking. But, in a few moments, he rose and said:

"Mother," as he often called his wife, "I suppose it's time to go, though I would rather stay."

And then asked me:

"What kind of a play is 'Our American Cousin'?" as he had apparently never seen it, although often going to the theater, as is well known, to have a couple of hour's freedom from the ceaseless calls and care of the White House.

We all rose, Mr. A. offered his arm to Mrs. Lincoln, and I walked by the side of the President, who still continued talking, till he reached that outside threshold of the White House he was never again to pass alive. Arrived there, he abruptly stopped his conversation, and standing still, said:

"Ashmun, I gave Colfax this morning a message to the miners he will meet on his overland trip, and I want to tell you the points in it to see what you think of them."

He then repeated rapidly an exact abstract of the speech to the miners he had given me in the morning, showing how strongly these points fixed in his mind, which Mr. Ashmun approved heartily. He then seated himself by his wife's side in the carriage, and writing a line in pencil, said:

"That will admit you, Ashmun, to the executive chamber to-morrow morn'g before the crowd arrives. Come early."

He then turned to me, and referring to a promise in the morning that he would telegraph me promptly if he concluded an extra session of Congress would be necessary, said in a cheery tone:

"Pleasant journey to you. I'll telegraph you at San Francisco. Goodby."

And that was his last good-bye on earth. Pope commemorated the virtues of Harley, Earl of Oxford, a privy Counselor of Queen Anne, who himself narrowly escaped assassination, in lines that seemed prophetic of Mr. Lincoln's remarkable characteristics:

"A soul supreme, in each hard instance tried, Above all pain, all anger, and all pride. The rage of power, the blast of public breath. The love of lucre, or the dread of death."

And it was a singular coincidence, considering the manner of his death, that, when raising the Stars and Stripes over Independence Hall, in February, 1861, just before his inauguration, he should have exclaimed, in that wearily sad tone which his friends so well remember, and with almost a prophetic forecast of his sad fate:

"It was the Declaration of Independence which gave promise that in due time the weight would be lifted from the shoulders of all men. If this country cannot be saved without giving up that principle, I was about to say I would rather be assassinated on the spot than surrender it. I have said

nothing but what I am willing to live by, and if it be the pleasure of Almighty God, to die by."

How fitting and appropriate seems now the very last official act of his life, on this very Friday of his assassination I am referring to! When notified by telegraph (between the two interviews embodied in this paper and the preceding one) that two of the Southern leaders were to arrive from Canada at a New England port to escape to Europe, he instructed our officers not to arrest them. But only a few short hours after his message of mercy had sped on the wings of the lightning to save these Southern chiefs from harm, his wicked assassin sent his bullet crashing through that brain which had been devising plans of reconciliation with the country's enemies, and ended that life which had "malice for none and charity for all." And I am more than sure, if in his death agonies he had had one moment of consciousness and speech, his great heart would have prompted him to pray for all who had thirsted for his blood: Father, forgive them, for, indeed, they know not what they do."

#### A Poor Preacher's Pucker.

[San Francisco Chronicle.]

During last winter a revival was in progress in one of the country churches near San Francisco. Among the regular attendants on the meeting was a beautiful and estimable but rather unsophisticated young lady, whose friends were very anxious to have her united with the church. She seemed, however, reluctant to do so, and the minister in question was requested to "talk to her." This he did several times, on one occasion saying, in a jocular manner, "Miss M., if you will join the church I'll marry you," meaning he would perform the ceremony. The girl seemed pleased with the proposition, and a few evenings after walked up to the altar and united with the church.

Some weeks after this the minister preached at the church, and after the services met the young lady. "Brother —," said she, "you know you promised to marry me if I'd join the church. Are you going to do so? I don't want to wait any longer."

The minister saw his dilemma, and attempted to explain. "I meant I would perform the ceremony," he said, "I can't marry you myself, for I am already married, and love my wife too much to desire to swap her off for another."

The young lady became indignant, declaring that she "never did have much faith in these town preachers." Our ministerial friend declares that he will never again use any other than plain Scriptural argument to induce a young lady to join the church.

#### The Keene Magazine Gun.

The Remingtons, of Ilion, N. Y., are now making a magazine gun, Keene's patent, for the U. S. military cartridge, 45 cal., 70 grains powder. The magazine is located under the barrel, thereby enabling it to carry the greatest number of cartridges within a given weight and length of barrel. All of the motions are direct and positive. The cartridges are held securely in position while passing from the magazine over the carrier to the chamber in the barrel, in which respect it has a decided advantage over other magazine arms. The cartridge does not pass on to the carrier until the gun is opened for the purpose of loading, so that there is no danger of a cartridge being exploded in the carrier in case a defective cartridge is fired in the gun. The arm is always left at half cock and the breech locked so that it cannot be jarred open and the cartridge lost out. From the half cock it can be brought to the full cock readily and quickly, while the arm is being carried to the shoulder and without removing the finger from the trigger. The parts are all large and strong, and can be readily removed and replaced for the purpose of cleaning or inspection. The magazine is so arranged that it can be charged while the breech is closed, thus avoiding the entrance of dirt in the working parts of the gun. The gun may be held either barrel up or reversed for this purpose.

#### In the Georgia Gold Belt.

"Do you own any land in the gold belt?" I asked, writes a correspondent of the New York Tribune. The Squire half laughed.

"There's gold through the whole country mere or less," he said. "Taint no advantage to anybody to own it. It's the kind of land that the more you own of it the poorer you are—taxes to pay. I own a good deal; and I'm a mighty poor man."

"How does it sell?" I asked.

"Slowly," the squire answered, a twinkle in his eye. "That in the gold belt is worth \$100 an acre; farming land, that is wild land on the hill sides—you can get plenty of it at a dollar an acre."

"Nobody ought to starve here, then."

"Nobody does. Nobody makes any money, either, except a few Yankees. Our people don't want money. It's a great curse—d'know that—money is."

"Are none of you but the Yankees anxious to make it? Isn't most of the country under cultivation?"

"Not one twentieth of it. Our people are sort of—indolent. The happiest man in the world is the man that's just enough to live and pay his honest debts. That's gospel."

The squire rose to go over and unlock the post-office to an impatient inquirer for his mail. "It's a great mistake," he said, "to suppose that gold is a paying crop, anyway."

It takes about three dollars in money to get up one dollar's worth of gold, an' two dollars to get one in silver. When you come to copper you're about even, an' when you find iron you've struck it rich."

"Corn an' wheat's about the best job we've undertook here," the squire's wife said sedately.

#### Two Kinds of Law.

Some time ago a white man was arraigned before a colored justice on a charge of killing a man and stealing a mule.

"Wal," said the Justice, "de facks in dis case shall be weighed wid carefulness, an' if I hangs yer 'taint no fault ob mine."

"Judge, you have no jurisdiction only to examine me."

"Dat sorter works b'longs ter de raigular justice, but yer see I've been put on as a special. A special bez de right ter make a mouf at S'preme court of he chooses ter."

"Do the best for me you can, judge."

"Dat's what I've gwine ter do. I've got two kinds ob law in dis court, de Arkansas law and de Texas law. I ginerally gins a man de right to choose fur hisself. Now what law docs yer want, de Texas or de Arkansas?"

"I believe I'll take the Arkansas."

"Well, in dat case, I'll dismiss you fur stealin' de mule!"

"Thank you, judge."

"An' hang yer fur killin' the man!"

"I believe, judge, I'll take the Texas."

"Wal, in dat case, I'll dismiss yer fur killin' de man!"

"You have a good heart, judge."

"An' hang yer fur stealin' de mule. I'll jis' take de 'casion heah ter remark dat de only difference between de two laws is de way yer state de case."

The satire of this old story illustrates comparative civilizations. More than one luckless adventurer in the West and South has lost his life on mere suspicion of stealing a horse, where he would have been only fined for killing a man.

#### FASHION, FRIPPERY AND FOLLY.

Gloves and hats should match each dress.

The Princess Louise is now traveling in Austria.

All neck arrangements of muslin and lace are fashionable.

Bracelets are a necessity with the short and demi sleeves now worn.

Chinese and Hindoo designs are seen upon many of the new dress materials.

Some of the Parisian shoemakers are trying to introduce shoes without heels.

Passementiere trimmings are still among the adornments of dresses, cloaks and dolmans.

Silks, satins and velvets are trimmed with plush, which makes a very rich and beautiful suit.

Dresses of light material are very elaborately trimmed, but when heavy stuff is used it should be quite plain.

Sara Bernhardt detests the Germans and is out in a letter showing her distaste in terms which they call insulting.

White ties and laces are the prettiest, and are usually worn for the neck, collars being used entirely for house wear.

Short walking suits made of heavy material, with wide belts of the same, are the prevailing fashion for street wear.

It was a grateful wife who, when her husband was brought home intoxicated, thanked God he was not a blood relation.

Beaded collars finished with fringe, also half handkerchiefs of beaded net, are numbered with confections for neck wear.

Cloaks are made in imitation of gents' coats as nearly as possible; in children's outer wraps the difference is hardly perceptible.

Large gilded hooks and eyes fasten bonnet strings under the chin and ornament the crown trimming of many nobby bonnets.

The old fashioned bonnet with high front and straight slope backward to a point, is again in great demand. The trimmings are all placed in the front.

Simple toilets are not only made dreasy by the addition of fichus, but large bows of wide satin ribbon, with short ends, are worn on the left side just below the belt line.

A woman is easier to manage who has a past. She knows what to expect; it is flattering to be the first object of passion to a woman, but it is troublesome; she exacts too much.

Some of the new winter wraps are fitted like a jacket at the back, but have wide sleeves that extend to the lower edge of the cloak at the back and give it the effect of a mantle.

Women with high shoulders are advised not to wear the Langtry hoods which are drawn up by a cord, but choose those instead which button together at the lower end and lie quite flat.

Elegant shoulder capes are made entirely of black Marabout feathers. A novelty in evening wraps is a Persian scarf of heavy raw silk in rich oriental colors, with a border of plush and heavy chenille fringes.

For full-dress toilets come woolen fabrics, called nun's veiling, transparent as muslin and designed to be combined with satin. A new thing, by the way, in satin are those with wool backs. These drape much more gracefully than do the silk-backed goods and are more durable.