

THE RIVER PRESS.

Vol. IV.

Fort Benton, Montana, Wednesday, December 5, 1883.

No. 7.

The Sweet Bye and Bye Club.

The grand annual dinner of the Sun River Sweet Bye and Bye club was given at the Reinicke house, Sun River, Leavings, on Thanksgiving evening. It was without doubt the finest affair that ever took place between Helena and Fort Benton, and too much credit cannot be given to Mr. Flynn, the chief caterer of the club, and to Mr. and Mrs. Reinicke, assisted by their charming daughter, for the taste displayed and the artistic and masterly manner of preparing the feast.

The members of the club departed from their headquarters, at Sun River, precisely at 6 p. m., in two four-horse coaches, one furnished by C. T. Rowles & Bro. of the Maud S. stables, and the other by the proprietor of the Sun River stables. After a pleasant ride of about an hour's duration, they arrived at Reinicke's with keen appetites for the elegant repast prepared for them. After the customary song had been sung, they did the "usual thing," and at once commenced operations upon the bill of fare, which is furnished below:

MENU.

Oysters raw.	Sauter wine.
Chicken.	Soup.
Mock Turtle.	Fish.
Fresh Salmon, boiled egg sauce.	Fresh Trout
Smelts, from Maine, fried in crumbs.	Sherry Wine.
Roast.	
Pig (whole), with apple sauce.	
Turkey, stuffed with oysters, cranberry sauce.	
Goose, with onions.	Saddle of Venison.
Vegetables.	Port Wine.
ENTREES.	
Chicken fricassee, Maryland style.	Quail on Toast.
Wild Grouse Pie.	Mallard and Teal Duck.
Vegetables.	Claret Wine.
SALADS.	
Chicken.	Celery.
Lobster.	PASTRY.
English Plum Pudding.	Charlotte Russe.
Cocoanut Pie.	Lemon Pie.
Mince Pie.	DESSERT.
Vanilla and Lemon Ice Cream.	
Cake of all kinds.	Confectionery.
Nuts and Raisins	
Grapes.	Oranges.
Bananas.	Apples.
CHAMPAGNES.	
Mumm's Extra Dry.	Pommery Sec.
Moet & Chandon.	Peiper Heidsieck.

The post of honor at the head of the table was occupied by the president, Mr. L. S. Wells, while Mr. Harry Rowles, the vice president, filled a similar position at the foot. Arranged between them were the following members, who represented about one quarter the full strength of the club: Ben. Steell, C. T. Rowles, A. S. Hall, Isaac Bourke, Jas. Henneberry, George Lane, Malcolm Craik, Henry Kelly, Henry Maloney, D. B. Hall, and the following invited guests: Robert Vaughn, Judge J. E. Lippincott and Jake Powers, who, before the repast was over, signified their desire to become members of the club. After the first course, the grand recorder, Mr. D. B. Hall, read the following telegrams and letters, expressing regrets at being unable to attend:

EXECUTIVE MANSION, WASHINGTON, Nov. 22d, 1883.

Sweet Bye and Bye Club, Sun River: GENTLEMEN.—Owing to important and pressing affairs of state and the near approach of the assembling of Congress, I am compelled regretfully to decline your kind invitation to join in your annual dinner. CHESTER A. ARTHUR.

FT. BENTON, M. T., Nov. 28th. D. B. Hall, S. B. and B. Club, Sun River, M. T.:

Sir,—Roads being very bad and corns troublesome, the walk from Benton to the Leavings is too much for my constitution.—Yours respectfully, JERRY COLLINS.

CHICAGO, Nov. 28, 1883.

Sweet Bye and Bye Club, Sun River, Montana: Am overtaken by sickness, which will necessitate my absence from our annual dinner. ROBT. INGERSOLL.

HELENA, M. T., Nov. 28, 1883.

Sweet B. and B. Club, Sun River, M. T.: Agents of Helena and Benton stage company refuse to pass me over their line without paying fare, hence it is impossible for me to be with you; this I regret exceedingly, as I shall miss a square meal. SCHUYLER CROSBY. [Collect \$1.25 on telegram.]

ULIDIA, M. T., Nov. 28th.

President, S. B. and B. Club, Sun River: Have no overshoes to wear and am very busy inventing a patent back-action mouse trap, which I know will sell like hot cakes to the natives of the Missouri valley and Chestnut. Please convey my excuses to the club. T. L. GORHAM.

HELENA, M. T., Nov. 28, 1883.

Secretary, Sun River Sweet Bye and Bye Club:

DEAR SIR,—Having secured a supply of genuine pigs' feet, I don't care to take any more chances.—Yours, X. BEIDLER.

Many others were read which it will be unnecessary to repeat, as I wish to devote a little space to the toasts.

After three hours spent in eating and general conversation, during which time the members and guests had become, by the influence of good food and generous wines, in a pleasant state of mind, the table was cleared and a fresh basket of "Pomery Sec" opened, and toasts were the order of the evening. The toast "Our Club" was responded to in a happy manner by the vice president, H. T. Rowles.

"Man—what could woman do without him?" This problem was solved to the satisfaction of all concerned by Mr. Robert Vaughn.

"The stock interests of Montana." It was expected that Jake Powers would respond, but owing to having eaten so

much begged to be excused, and Mr. Malcolm Craik commenced a long account of the early history of the Sun River flour mill. Being informed by the grand recorder that it was stock and not flour to be responded to, sat down.

"The Montana jack rabbit." Before the toast was fairly out of the mouth of the toast master, Judge J. E. Lippincott was on his feet—I should say on his chair—and demanded that he and he alone should be permitted to respond. For three-quarters of an hour he dilated upon the value and habits of this noble animal of the prairie in a manner so eloquent as those acquainted with the judge only are aware.

"The ladies of Sun River." Responded to by Ben Steele.

"Our food." This awoke a responsive chord in the heart of the president, Mr. L. S. Wells, who responded in a touching manner by informing the club that he spent his entire salary and all he could borrow in endeavoring to obtain good and fattening food, but up to the present time was unsuccessful, as his shape would prove.

"Our Beer." Responded to by H. Maloney.

To the last toast of the evening, "Our town," every member was anxious to respond, but the president selected Mr. D. B. Hall as the one best calculated to handle the subject, whereupon Mr. Hall arose, and for thirty minutes held the club spell-bound while he informed them that "towns" were his hobby, and dwelt upon his experience in all parts of the world, gathering statistics of towns, but no town had he ever seen so flourishing and promising as Sun River.

Stock Raising in Montana.

Gen. Brisbin, in recent correspondence to the Pioneer Press, makes the following observation on the cattle trade:

The shipment of cattle west is also another strange development of recent times. This year eastern Montana has sent to market about 24,000 head and has received about 34,000 head of eastern cattle—an excess of 10,000 head of import over export. This is really wonderful. Most of these cattle are young and brought out to grow up and fatten on the nutritious grasses of Montana, when they will be returned to the eastern market as beefsteaks. The eastern cattle bought for western shipment are purchased in Ohio, Iowa, Illinois, Wisconsin and Minnesota. They are generally young, one and two year olds, or cows brought out for dairy or breeding purposes. How this experiment of shipping eastern cattle west to winter will come out I am not prepared to say, but I think it will succeed if care is taken of them the first winter. Cattle become acclimated in a year or two, and then there is little or no danger of their dying, no matter how severe the winters are. A Montana calf, born and reared on the soil, cannot be killed by severe weather any more than a buffalo calf. I have noticed that the hair of cattle born in this northern climate is longer and the hide thicker than that of eastern cattle, so I suppose nature accommodates itself to the latitude in which it has to exist. Our stockmen, too, are becoming more careful of their herds than they used to be. They now cut and put up a good deal of hay for their cattle, a thing they never did until lately. A mowing machine and a little labor has been found to be a cheap insurance of a herd. The number of cattle shipped and driven into Montana from other points during the past year marks it as the future grazing ground of the northwest. Three years ago we had less than 30,000 head in Custer county, and this year 92,000 head are taxed. These probably represent only about two-thirds of the number in the county, so that there are 150,000 head of cattle in Custer county. The sheep interest have kept pace with the cattle, and flocks from the eastern states, Oregon and California have been driven in. Like the immigrants, they are moving both ways and centering on Montana. A few years ago—1877—the first flock of sheep were driven down the Yellowstone, and now there are hundreds of flocks numbering thousands of head. I have been somewhat skeptical about sheep in Montana; I doubted if they would do well in so cold a climate, but I am beginning to think I was mistaken in my estimate of the climate, and am fast coming to the conclusion that Montana is just as good a place for sheep as it is for cattle. The cattle men of course are bitterly opposed to sheep, for they eat off the ranges and destroy them for cattle. In time, as the ranges crowd, we shall have sheep and cattle wars, the same as they had in Colorado a few years ago, and then the foot herders (sheep) will have to get out, and the mounted herders (cattle) will hold the ranges for their herds. The time is coming, and is not far distant, when the question of ranges and their ownership will have to be met by the government. At present every large cattle owner, and sheep owner, for that matter, is a trespasser on the public lands. They have no legal right to the lands they hold and cannot retain them against actual settlers.

Painful Accident.

As Billy Rowe was riding up Main street last Thursday, about eight o'clock, p. m. his horse ran into a ditch in front of Stocking's brick residence. The horse stumbled and fell on Billy, dislocating and severely injuring his shoulder. Chas. Downing happened to be passing at the time and helped the injured man home. The exact character and extent of his injuries cannot at present be determined, but his shoulder is in bad shape and he is suffering intense pain. The horse Rowe was riding, Red Buck, the racer, also had its shoulder put out of place by the fall.

FAVORABLE FIGURES.

Interesting Extracts From the Governor's Report.

Governor Crosby, in his report to the secretary of the interior, makes some interesting statements and recommendations. The indebtedness and assessable property, so far as reported, is shown by the figures which follow:

	Indebt.	Assess.
Dawson	\$ 27,203 30	\$ 2,325,000
Madison	80,100 00	2,050,000
Custer	261,452 67	6,000,000
Gallatin	58,000 00	5,000,000
Beaverhead	28,576 44	2,000,000
Silver Bow	19,900 00	6,200,000
Mesa	137,259 34	3,385,300
Yellowstone	7,728 66	1,500,000
Choteau	108,000 00	3,000,000
Deer Lodge	33,866 10	8,500,000
Lewis and Clarke	89,000 44	6,000,000
Jefferson	78,594 44	17,000,000
Meagher	25,402 19	3,000,000
Total	\$366,173 04	\$46,550,300

In his report the governor makes the following estimate of the number and value of cattle and sheep in Montana in October, 1883:

Number of cattle, 475,000, valued at \$30 per head, \$14,250,000.

Number of sheep, 700,000; value, \$3 per head, \$2,100,000.

Number of horses, 90,400, at \$75 per head, value \$6,780,000.

Twenty-five thousand head of imported breeds of cattle have been brought into the territory this year, also some of the finest racing and trotting stock.

The Latest From Barker.

CLENDENIN, November 30, 1883.

Editors of the River Press:

The closing down of the Silver Belle mine and the Clendenin smelter at this place has for the past few days cast a gloom over the camp, but happily the arrival of Mr. H. D. Burghardt on the last coach has raised the cloud, and the faces of the miners are once more aglow. Mr. Burghardt has effected such arrangements with the First National Bank, of Helena, as will enable him in the course of a few weeks to start the mine and furnace in full blast. Your correspondent has made particular inquiries of most all the miners that worked in the Silver Belle mine, and they all unite in saying that the mine never looked as well as it does at the present, and that at their least estimate the blast furnace can be run on what ore there is in sight for at least fifty days at a profit of \$1,000 per day. It will be necessary for a short delay before starting the blast—say about three weeks—in order to get sufficient coal to make a run. The miners here are all willing to aid, and have the utmost confidence in Manager Burghardt's ability not alone to pay all indebtedness but in the near future to make the company he represents paying dividends. The dead work has all been done and now nothing remains but to shovel the carbonate ore into the cars and draw it to the smelter. The picture for Barker is not so dark as some of the territorial papers would choose to have it; and neither is the assignment of F. W. Reed & Co., as the Benton Record's interview with one Graham would indicate. I took occasion to call upon Mr. McQueen, the assignee, and obtained the following facts: The firm owes Mr. Graham the large sum of \$31.75 instead of \$100, as stated in the Record; and never at any time did he refuse credit to those having money on deposit in the store. He further states that the liabilities of the firm are, in round numbers, \$25,000; the assets—stock in store—\$37,000; book accounts, \$10,000.

At no time were there any threats of violence proclaimed against Mr. Emery at this place; we have a good law-abiding class of citizens here, and it is safe to say that nine-tenths of all the people here will welcome Mr. Emery, and be glad to see him back among us soon and established in his business here.

As evidence of good cheer, the A. O. U. W. lodge gave the grandest ball, last night, of the year. All the dancing people turned out and had a general good time.

The Tillinghast Failure.

The community was shocked, says a Chicago correspondent, by the failure of H. C. Tillinghast & Co., dealers in hides and furs, and the business world trembled at the fall of a house so long established and apparently so prosperous. The liabilities are now stated at a little less than \$300,000; the assets are an unknown quantity though the impression prevails that they will not pay 75 cents on the dollar. The failure is due to three causes: outside speculations, the firm being interested in mining, the general depression of trade, especially the depression following the great failure in the east in the same line of business, and the sickness for months of the head of the firm and his family. The failure is an "honest one" beyond the shadow of a doubt, and the creditors will realize every dollar the estate will produce.

The K. of P. Ball.

The second annual ball given by Crescent Lodge, No. 4, Knights of Pithias, at the Grand Union hotel on Thanksgiving evening, was a complete success in every particular. The attendance was large enough to make the affair enjoyable, without any crowding. On account of the severe cold weather the Assinaboine band failed to come, according to agreement; yet the music was first-class, and we have yet to hear the first word of anything but praise for the performance of the musicians. The dancing commenced promptly at nine o'clock and was kept up without a break until the twelve o'clock supper. The hotel served up a banquet which was an honor to the house and a pleasure for the guests to partake of. Dancing was

then again resumed and did not cease till 4 a. m. Ladies and gentlemen all seemed charmed with the delightful time they experienced, and all will be anxious that another year may quickly roll around that they may have the pleasure of attending another Knights' ball. Neither expense nor pains were spared by the gentlemen in charge of the dance to have everything first-class and to run smoothly, and they may congratulate themselves that the ball was a pleasant affair in all respects.

Accident on the Wickes Branch.

HELENA, November 30.—Last night, about 8 o'clock, while the locomotive of a train loaded with ties was resting on the track at a water station, about one and a half miles north of Jefferson, a very sad accident occurred by which two men, the fireman and brakeman, were severely cut up and maimed. The fireman, D. J. Sullivan, a young man probably twenty-two years of age, was engaged at the time of the accident cleaning out the ashes from beneath the locomotive, and Geo. Riley, the brakeman, probably twenty years of age, was standing on the top of the tender, filling the tank, when a car loaded with ties, which had broken loose from a train that was being switched at Jefferson, came rushing down the grade at a fearful speed and struck the locomotive. Sullivan, who was underneath, had his left foot cut off at the ankle joint and his right leg crushed below the knee. George Riley was thrown from the tender and had his right foot cut off below the ankle joint.

New Turf Circuit.

Montana turfmen will read the following, which comes from Salt Lake, with interest: "A turf circuit, to be called the Rocky mountain circuit, is in process of organization, with a capital stock of \$100,000, half paid in. The money will be used for the purpose of purchasing land and building houses and tracks at the various towns in the circuit, which will include Helena, Butte, Denver, Pueblo, Omaha, San Francisco and other towns that hereafter may be decided upon. Horses going east from San Francisco in the spring will be able to take in the Rocky mountain circuit, and returning from the east will be enabled to join in the fall meetings. So, also, horses coming from Omaha and the east in the early part of the year will be able to enter the Rocky mountain circuit for the spring races, and returning from the coast will be able to take part in the fall meetings."

Governor Hale of Wyoming.

Council Bluffs Nonpareil, 20: "Hon. Wm. Hale, governor of Wyoming territory, arrived in the city yesterday afternoon from Glenwood, where he has been sojourning since Wednesday, when he arrived from Cheyenne. The numerous friends in western Iowa of Gov. Hale will be gratified to learn that he is rapidly regaining his wonted health and strength. Since the middle of September he has been gradually improving and hopes soon to be as well as ever. He expects to remain in western Iowa three or four weeks before returning to Cheyenne. He is at present quartered at the Ogden, where he expects to remain to-day and probably to-morrow." The governor is a brother of Van Hale, of Fort Benton.

Golden Belle.

The young people of the city were much surprised Monday on learning that Miss Mamie L. Hepler and Mr. John G. Vawter were quietly married at six o'clock in the morning and had left on the Helena coach. The Reverend Jacob Mills performed the ceremony at the residence of the bride's father, Mr. Henry Hepler. Miss Mamie was noted in Benton for her vivacity and amiable disposition, and all of her many friends will regret her loss. Mr. Vawter is a young man of good business qualifications and now holds the position of freight agent for the Northern Pacific railroad at Little Blackfoot station. The happy couple are as yet undecided as to whether they will make their home at the latter place or in Helena but the good will of their many Fort Benton friends, including the RIVER PRESS, will follow them wherever their abode may be, and wish for them many years of happy married life.

Marias Pass.

The pass through the main ridge of the Rocky mountains, at the head waters of the Flathead river on the west and the Marias on the east, has been explored this summer by Prof. Pumpelly in the interests of the northern transcontinental survey. He left the Flathead about eighty miles above the lake and entered a gorge walled in by rugged precipices thousands of feet high and terminating in sharp ridges and pointed cones. This led up to the summit of the pass where three main canyons come together, and from which may be seen a dozen high and rocky peaks. About fifteen miles to the west was observed a mass of snow-covered mountains, on whose side is a living glacier about a mile in width and some 500 feet of perpendicular height, and from beneath which flows a milky-white stream of glacier water. In the grand canyon in which this glacier lies were observed twenty-two falls and cascades over 500 feet in height and innumerable smaller ones. On the eastern side, in descending the Marias, the canyon is bounded by the most lofty and rugged precipices. The pass is 7,800 feet above the level of the sea, and the scenery is declared to be superior to that of the famous Yellowstone.—The West Shore.

Canadian Postage.

There seems to be a general misapprehension as to the application of the recent postal reduction to Canadian postage. The following department circular sets the matter at rest and makes the two-cent stamp sufficient postage on letters mailed to points in Canada:

POST OFFICE DEPARTMENT, OFFICE OF FOREIGN MAILS, WASHINGTON, AUG. 21, 1883.

Under and by virtue of the provisions of the existing postal arrangements between the United States and the Dominion of Canada, in pursuance of which the prepayment of the domestic postage rates of either country upon letters addressed to the other secures their delivery in the country of destination free of charge, the reduced rate of the United States postage on first class matter (2 cents per one-half ounce) to go into effect October 1st next, will apply also, on and after that date, to ordinary letters sent in the mails from this country to Canada.

JOSEPH H. BLACKFAN, Superintendent of Foreign Mails.

Robbing Racket.

The following letter was received yesterday by a party in Fort Benton who had no use for it, so he handed it to us for publication. The letter was accompanied by a newspaper clipping, giving some interesting facts as to the amount of counterfeit money which could not be detected even by the United States treasury officials. It is an old game and we do not think the New York sharper will find many suckers in Montana:

DEAR SIR:—Can you use such goods? If you can I will supply you with them on very favorable terms. If I have made a mistake in asking you this question say nothing about it but let the matter drop. I am a friend to a friend and mean nothing wrong. Yours truly, JOS. A. REED.

391 East 10th street, New York city. Please return this letter and slip as soon as read, and oblige—

Maiden.

Dr. Turner and Chet. Fowler are just in from Maiden. They report that the late cold snap froze the water in the flume that runs to the Collar mill and in consequence the works were forced to shut down. It is probable that the mill will not start up again until spring opens, when there will be no danger of their water supply being cut off by the frost. Five bars of fine silver bullion had been moulded from the late short run when they left the camp weighing about 1,900 ounces each. The assay value of this is not known but it seemed to be eminently satisfactory to all the parties interested in the enterprise. Miners will be kept at work all winter developing the Collar mine and taking out ore for another season's run by the mill. The mine is turning out some very rich ore and some fine specimens were exhibited to the Benton travelers.

Patenting Mines.

The Mining and Scientific Press prints some sensible suggestions in relation to the patenting of mines, which we quote for the benefit of mine owners in northern Montana: "So much has been said about the benefits of patenting mining claims, that it would seem that all the miners would recognize them. It is a fact, however, that too many neglect this important duty, and when the time comes when they have an opportunity to sell, it is lost through neglect of ability to guarantee title. A government patent is accepted as a guarantee of good title. Before it can be procured certain forms have to be gone through and adverse claims settled, so that a patented claim is free from all possible legal entanglement, so apt to encircle those which have been put to the test. So well are these facts recognized by experts and capitalists, that a very good mine will often be refused if not patented. The parties who buy unpatented mines now, insist on retaining part of the purchase money until the patent is forthcoming. And this is not more than just. If there is any flaw it will come out during the patent application proceedings, though none may have been apparent during many years of undisputed possession. Instances are so numerous where flaws have appeared that purchasers are not safe unless they protect themselves in some way like this. Every miner with a claim worth working ought to consider it worth patenting. A good mine with a poor title is not an enviable property; better have a comparatively poor mine with a good title. A man with a promising location which is patented will stand many more chances of seeing it sold than one of which he has merely a possession title. These questions should be considered seriously by all miners, who, while developing a good property, should see to it that they perfect a good title also."

Attempted Robbery.

MEMPHIS, December 1.—At Corinth, Miss., one hundred miles east of Memphis, on the line of the Memphis & Charleston railway, a daring attempt was made at 4 o'clock this morning to rob McWilliams, the Southern express agent. He had just placed in the safe a large sum of money received a few minutes previous from the east bound train, when suddenly a masked man entered the room with a drawn pistol and demanded the safe keys, and without waiting for a reply fired on McWilliams. The ball struck four inches below the right nipple. McWilliams threw a lighted lamp at the robber, drew his pistol and fired three shots at the masked man, but with what effect is not known.