

LOCAL NOTES.

From Friday's Daily.

Frank Damm, of Sun River, is in the city.

Wood and coal seem to be plenty in town.

J. P. Thomas and wife, of Wolf creek, are at the Grand Union.

O. G. Records and D. A. Campbell, of Stanford, are registered at the Grand Union.

Z. D. Holmes can be called papa now. It is a girl baby, born in Chicago November 17th.

Quite a number of passengers from Assinaboine came in last night and are at the Choteau house.

Joseph C. McCuaig, one of the wool growers of the upper Marias country, arrived in the city last evening.

All the brick is on the ground for the new church at Sun River, but the building will not be erected until spring.

The Marias was easily forded by the Assinaboine coach yesterday, having fully recovered from the effects of the chinook.

E. J. Davison has returned from the horse ranch of Frank Bain. Mr. D. is interested with J. H. Rice and Col. Leaming in the horse ranch there, we believe.

R. P. Walker, superintendent of the Montana cattle company, will leave in a few days for his old home at Indianapolis to spend the winter—his first vacation since he came to Montana.

We are glad to chronicle the fact that Mr. A. Nathan is the father of a son, his first born. The new-comer is not very large as yet but has doubtless come to stay and grow up with the country.

Billy Winchell and John LaMotte intend to run a buckboard stage line from Fort Benton to Arrow creek once every week after the Billings coach leaves that route and goes by way of Cora creek.

T. J. Davidson, manager of A. J. Davidson & Co.'s late business here, left for Helena on Thursday's coach. T. J. has made many friends during his stay in the city and all are sorry to see him depart.

Col. Higes arrived from Fort Assinaboine yesterday afternoon, and is now stopping at the Grand Union. He reports that his hearing, which has been troubling him for some time, was completely restored on his way here.

We see that Frank E. Wright of Utica, who has been J. D. Weatherwax's rustling assistant, is going home to New York state to spend a few months. In order to keep posted on Montana affairs he has ordered the DAILY RIVER PRESS forwarded to his address.

One of our prominent business men told us yesterday that if we could get up a magnetic, never-let-go dunning letter, which would catch on every time and make the unwilling victim loosen up, he will give us a big order for printing. We should judge from the above remark that collections are slow just at present.

Lieut. Cummings, the "reservation" real estate agent, reports the sale of town lots as quiet at present but held firm without any decline. He says spring is bound to see a big jump in the value of property in that part of town, as ground is held cheap there in proportion to its price in other parts of the city.

Several additions to the reservation invading party have been had in the last twenty-four hours and it will not be many days until the start is made. The leaders know just where to go to find the choicest spots in the world for farming, dairying or stock raising. There are "spots" enough of this kind in the country to open for 5,000 people.

David M. Boothby, a member of the Katie Putnam company, died on the 4th inst., at Butte, while being conveyed from the depot to the hotel. He was quite ill on the trip from Boise city to Butte, although he maintained his accustomed good spirits throughout, even "joshing" with his friends as they lifted him into the vehicle. His death was sudden and entirely unexpected.

F. C. Roosevelt has purchased of T. C. Power & Bro. their entire stock of furniture and the invoice of the same was completed yesterday. The stock will be removed at once to his warehouses and with this addition to his already large supply of furniture Mr. Roosevelt will be ready to meet all demands on his trade. Although he has now the exclusive furniture business of the city he proposes to sell cheaper than ever before and offers bargains in every line of the trade.

Clark, the Assinaboine stage driver, informs us that John Ogle got shipwrecked on the Cracon-du-Nez, and the remains of what was once a wagon are scattered far and near. This hill is getting a notorious reputation of late for runaways and smash-ups. It has always been known as the worst hill in the country to go up or down on. Some of the road fund could be judiciously applied, without doubt, upon this steep pitch, and would be a blessing to the people living on the lower Marias.

Sam Washington, who is just in from Barker, reports everything quiet in the camp, and that the stories are utterly false regarding the breaking in and carrying away goods from Reed & Co.'s store. He has been working at the store for a long time, and had any lawlessness of this kind occurred he would have known of it. The laborers and miners are naturally provoked to find that they cannot at present get any equivalent for their checks, which represent many a day's hard labor; but not a man has yet taken the law into his own hands or made any attempt at burglary.

Col. Higes is just in receipt of a letter from William B. Rochester, paymaster general United States army, which he showed to us last night, announcing the pleasing fact that there is due him—and

was when he was tried—six months pay, amounting to about \$1,800. The colonel was not aware of this fact until he received the letter of the paymaster general, and he is not a little elated over the fact that he carelessly omitted to draw his salary a few times. Had he knowledge of this fact at the time of his trial he could have made a good deal of it.

A Business Change.

Mr. Al. Rowe has purchased W. H. Wright's interest in the Benton stables, including the buggies, harness, hay, etc., and the firm will hereafter be Rowe & Terhune. Mr. Rowe is a young man well known in Fort Benton and we have no doubt he will make a first class stable man. He has been "raised among horses" and will take naturally to the business. Under the management of Messrs. Rowe & Terhune, both good rustlers, the old Benton stables is certain to do its portion of the business.

A Land Office at Fort Benton.

There is already an urgent need for a land office at Fort Benton, and with the opening of the Indian reservation east and north of us it will be an absolute necessity. Our citizens should at once take steps to make their wants known, by petition or otherwise, so as to urge Delegate Maginnis to take action in the premises. Thousands of names could be secured to a petition asking for a land district for northern Montana, and it should be prepared and circulated at once, so as to secure favorable action during the present congress.

Invading the Reservation.

There is serious talk of an invasion of the great Blackfoot reservation by a large number of men here and elsewhere who have set their hearts upon ranches in that inviting field, and others who propose to seek for the precious metals in the Bear's Paw and Little Rockies, where they are known to exist, and in paying quantities. These men will not wait for congress to open up the lands to the settlers, unless it is done pretty quick, and the probabilities are that they will enter that land of promise in such large numbers as to give the U. S. marshal, and even the troops in this section, a good deal of trouble if an effort is made to oust them. There is no part of Montana that will compare with this country, still the domain of the Indian, and it is not to be wondered at that the people are becoming impatient to invade it; we would advise, however, that they go a little slow and wait the favorable action of congress, which will not be long delayed. Beyond any question of doubt a large portion of the reservation will be thrown open this winter, and that will be time enough for the proposed invasion. Watch and wait. Better let a favored few get some of the choice sections than to antagonize Uncle Sam, and perhaps get into a peck of trouble.

The Boss Stock Country.

That Montana is one of the best stock countries in the world is well illustrated by the fact that more cattle have been shipped into the territory than out of it this last year. Cattle men are just beginning to realize the efficiency of our bunch grass and chinook winds. The hard winter of 1880-81 showed that our northern latitude was more than compensated for by our low elevation, small amount of snow fall and prevailing westerly winds. It demonstrated beyond a doubt the superiority of northern and eastern Montana as a cattle range, over Wyoming, Colorado or Texas. There has been such an excitement ever since among capitalists in regard to the business that the price of cattle has advanced rapidly. Cautious business men have been crying for the last three years that cattle were too high and the price was bound to come down, but the contrary has been the case, and our shrewdest stockmen are not now anxious to sell, as they anticipate a still further increase in the value of stock cattle. Gen. Brislin estimates that 24,000 head of beef steers have been driven from the territory to the eastern markets this last summer, and that 34,000 cattle have been driven in from the east. These are mostly young stock cattle which are brought in to grow big and fat in Uncle Sam's free pasture. This shows 10,000 more brought into Montana than sent out.

Still They Come.

The magnificent ranges of Montana continues to attract capitalists, drawn hither by the success which has hitherto attended that industry. A new cattle company was organized in Chicago and articles of incorporation filed on the 7th ult., under the title of the Dickey cattle company, with a capital stock of \$1,000,000, with W. W. & V. B. Dickey, John Clay, jr. and W. H. Forrest, representing a Scotch syndicate, and Wm. H. Swift, of Chicago, as directors. The Dickey were elected on the 27th to the positions of president and vice-president, and they will also be general managers of the company's property, which comprises a fenced ranch in the Indian territory with 20,000 cattle and ranch and 15,000 head in Montana.

War With Cattle Thieves.

Warrants were issued the first of the week for the apprehension of ten cattle thieves, who had been operating in the Powder river country, and they are doubtless under arrest before this. If so, it will necessitate a special term of court in Johnson county, as the jail there will not hold them. These men are all foremen or assistants on ranches in that section, and are well known. They have carried on operations quite extensively and have got away with a large number of cattle. One man who drove in a small herd from the states this season has lost seventy head, and others in proportion. This is but the beginning of what is likely to be an interesting contest, and there are threats of lynching even this early.—Cheyenne Leader.

She Knew Him Best.

John William Blank belonged to the Ancient and Modern and Highly Honorable Sons of Guns of Detroit. If it wasn't that, it was some other fraternal order which meets every Monday night and pays so much to the heirs of every member who happens to die.

John William happened to die the other month, and a committee was appointed to draft resolutions and present them to his wife in person. The first part of their duties was fulfilled to the entire satisfaction of the lodge. But the committee had some little trouble in finding Mrs. Blank. They traced her from one neighbor to another and finally found her at her sister's, hat and shawl on and ready to go out.

"Resolutions of sympathy, eh? Well, read 'em."

The chairman of the committee proceeded to read that John William was a good husband and kind father and a citizen of unapproachable integrity, when the widow interrupted.

"Too much taffy! We used to have a fight every week, and as for his being a kind father, we never had any children. As for his integrity, he stole all the wood we burned last winter!"

The chairman gulped down something and continued to read that John William was an upright brother, a man with a heart full of sympathy for the misfortunes of others, and that charity and forgiveness were the beacon fires which guided his footsteps.

"Fudge!" sneered the widow. "I washed for the money to pay his dues to the lodge, and all the sympathy any one got out of him wouldn't buy a cent's worth of court-plaster! Forgiveness! Well, some of you ought to have sat down on his hat some time! He'd have revenge if it cost him a year in state prison. Beacon fires is purty good, considerin' that we never have a decent stove in the house!"

"Madam, your husband has been called hence."

"Exactly; I was at the funeral and ought to know!"

"He was cut down like a flower."

"Well flowers ought to let whisky and saloons and tobacco and old sledge alone."

"And we trust that our loss is his gain."

"Well, if he's any better off I'm very glad on't, but I guess the gain is on your side. Now that's all I want to hear. I can pick up a thousand better men than him with my eyes shut. I'm in a hurry to go down and see a woman who offers to sell a fur-lined circular for \$15, and if you have any more high-falutin' Shakespeare to get off my sister will take it and save it until I get back."

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