

BOB TARTAR.

The Bold Thief Who is the Terror of Three Territories.

"Bob" Tartar, famous in the stock-thieving annals of the borders of Montana, Idaho and Wyoming, says a Lander, (Wyo.) correspondent of the Chicago Tribune, has been identified as the chief of the Teton basin gang of horse thieves. He has been arrested time and again for crimes, but such are his intelligence and shrewdness that he always escaped when the legal proof was called for. As an ostensible stockman, he has been located on the outer edge of the three territories. His real occupation has always been, however, the stealing of his neighbors' stock. Passing for a legitimate cattle breeder, he has the best of opportunities in the theft line, and has never failed to improve them. Always in league and communication with open thieves, he has now thrown off the mask himself and organized and put in motion one of the most dangerous bands of villains that ever terrorized a mountain border. Tartar has a genius for combination, and the desperate ruffians who acknowledge his sway work on systemized plans. Order and regularity characterize the pillage and disposal of the plunder. The band has been largely reinforced from desperadoes whom flight last year saved from the cord and bullet in Montana. The lawless from all parts of the frontiers have gathered to him, however, and his band is the aggregation of all that is dangerous and desperate. The success that has attended his infamous operations, and the apparent immunity he enjoys, have made his name a tower of strength to the lawless element, and Teton basin is looked upon as a sure refuge and haven of security. In the basin itself is quite a settlement. Tartar is a man of family, as are also some of his followers, and the basin has not a few women and children within its limits. Grain is raised and garden vegetables, hay is cut and comfortable dwellings have been erected.

Indian Raids.

The following from the Livingston Enterprise is in accordance with the views often expressed by the RIVER PRESS on the subject of Indian raids: Down about Billings and thence northward to the Missouri the air is thick with horse-stealings and rumors of horse-stealings. The Crows are stealing from the Piegans and the Piegans from the Crows, and as details of the two tribes journey back and forth across the country on raids and counter raids, pursuits and retreats, they pick up a few white men's horses or white men take a hand in the game and throw the odium on the Indians. Now the Enterprise has a remedy to suggest. There is a squad of soldiers at Fort Maginnis, the most of whom have never seen an Indian since they have been at the post. Several times this summer when Indians have been reported in the vicinity a small detachment of blue coats have been sent in pursuit. The officer in command always directed his men to take one biscuit in their haversacks and when the biscuit was eaten he always ordered a return to the fort for rations. As a consequence no Indians were caught. Now if those soldiers are not out here entirely for their health why can they not be stationed during the horse stealing season in cantonments stretched across the country invariably traversed by the Indians in their raids? This would go a long way toward putting an end to the thieving. We regard it as the duty of the military, rather than the civil authorities, to look after the Indians. If the soldiers scattered over the territory are not for the purpose of keeping the Indians in subjection and on their reservations we have no conception of their duties. That Indians should be constantly going back and forth on these predatory raids almost in sight of the garrisons is a disgrace to our alleged army.

A Contradiction.

A few days ago we published a statement furnished us by Wm. Glassman to the effect that a number of horses, bedding, provisions, etc. had been stolen from him and Henry Berger, by a man named George Evans. We received a letter from Evans in which he says the statement was untrue and that he can prove it by competent witnesses. He says he can be found at the ranch of A. D. Johnson, Cecil, Lewis & Clarke county. Mr. Glassman says that warrants for Evans arrest were sworn out by himself and Mr. Berger.

From the Races.

Wm. McLaughlin and Dan Blevins returned from Helena and Butte Wednesday, where they had been to take part in the races. Dan brings back Daniel B and has taken him to his ranch. Daniel B was fortunate enough to win the pioneer stakes at the fair and the 2-year old race. At Butte he was the favorite and won the 2-year old race for a purse of \$200. McLaughlin's three-year old mare, Ida Glen, was not quite fast enough to win the purse for three year olds, although she came in second, and surprised everyone.

Messrs. McLaughlin and Blevins are two of the best horsemen in northern Montana. When he looks at a horse Dan comes pretty near knowing what the animal can do, and he is a splendid trainer. Choteau county has some of the finest horse flesh in the territory within her borders and by another year will make entries for the races during fair week which will surprise old turfmen of the territory.

County Commissioners' Meeting.

The county commissioners met on Monday as a board of equalization and raised the assessment on many of our tax payers, who will be duly notified by the clerk.

The bids for the Sua river excavation, as advertised, were opened. The following is the list:

Table with 2 columns: Name and Amount. Includes A. C. Johnson (\$300.00), Wm. Mulcahy (460.00), David Davies (310.00), John S. Ryans (190.40), Wm. F. Wood (285.00), John B. Smith (336.00), W. J. Johnson (539.00), Malcolm McDonald (425.00).

The contract was awarded to John S. Evans for \$190.40, he being the lowest bidder.

The bids for the construction of the Teton road were as follows:

Table with 2 columns: Name and Amount. Includes J. C. Bourassa (\$1,000.00), Chas. Rowe (2,487.50), John B. Smith (5,000.00).

All of these bids were rejected and the chairman was authorized to contract at a lower figure.

The assessor's valuation of \$25 per head on cattle was unchanged, and that figure will stand as the value.

The board adjourned until the next regular meeting in December.

Sweet Grass Notes.

The Sweet Grass hills are beginning to attract attention all over the territory. The finding of float quartz rich in gold and silver is stimulating the miners who are now at work.

Seventy-five cents to the pan has been taken out of the rich diggings where gold was first discovered.

The marble in these hills will be a fortune in itself as soon as cheap transportation is secured.

Tuck Lambert says there is quartz of fine quality in the Sweet Grass, which will be located when the reservation is opened.

Coal of excellent quality is known to exist in the vicinity of the hills.

Any railroad from the Canadian Pacific will no doubt pass by the Sweet Grass hills.

Neihart.

Wm. Glassman who recently returned from Neihart is enthusiastic over the outlook of the camp.

The Hudson Mining company is developing a fine body of ore in the Mountain Chief. They will soon have their smelter in operation.

H. D. Burghardt will have a smelter at work in the Snow creek district next spring.

All that Neihart people ask now is that Fort Benton will assist them in the construction of a road to the mines.

The Local Paper's Value.

Few people realize to what extent their town is indebted to the local press. It is a medium that spreads abroad the advantages of the place wherein it is published and attracts the attention of people living at a distance. Others may become discouraged and weaken, but the paper must show a bold front at all times and never falter in its good work. Almost every town of any note originally owes its prosperity in the main to the papers that have untiringly held up to the world the inducements that the location presented to people looking for homes and a chance to prosper. A live press is ever on the alert, ever ready to champion any object, project, scheme or proposition that is to benefit the few or many. Its work is endless, and yet never falters, never tires, and never shirks its duty. Through its instrumentality deserts have been populated, communities enriched, great undertakings made a success, and still the newspaper only receives very slight credit, and the editor is the last to be rewarded.

Changing the Gauge.

ST. PAUL, September 21.—News received from Montana in railroad circles this evening say that the Union Pacific's Utah Northern narrow gauge branch in that territory is changing the gauge of its bridges. It is believed here that the company is preparing to make the line standard gauge in anticipation of the Northern Pacific building a broad gauge to Butte City.

Sugar Raising.

SAN FRANCISCO, September 22.—A further advance of half a cent on sugar will probably be made to-morrow, making the price one and a half cents over New York prices. Claus Spreckles said to-day that still further advance will be made later and that owing to a shortage in the best sugar the price might go to fifteen cents for the best grades.

Declining Securities.

LONDON, September 22.—There has been an important decline in Russian and other securities and the uneasiness on the stock exchange is increasing. The market for foreign securities at the stock exchange to-day is flat. A rumor is afloat that the Turkish army is being mobilized for immediate service in Roumelia. Consols fell 1 1/4 while Russian securities dropped 1 3/4.

Wool.

BOSTON, September 22.—Demand active; market quite excited; Ohio and Pennsylvania fleeces, 32@35c; combing and delaine fleeces held at very full prices and supplies taken as fast as offered. Unwashed wools, 18@25; pulled, 23@36 for common to choice supers.

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\$20 Reward.

Stolen on the night of August 18th, from the ranch of Ebeur Paul, near Arrow creek, two sets of wheel harness, one set of lead harness and eight collars. Twenty dollars reward will be paid for the recovery of the property, or for any information which will lead to its recovery. Leave word with Bourassa & Dehamp, Fort Benton.

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Thorough examination and advice, including analysis of urine, \$5.00. Price of Vital Restorative, \$1.50 a bottle, or four times the quantity for \$5.00; sent to any address upon receipt of price, or C. O. D., secured from observation and in private name if desired, by Dr. MINTIE, 11 Kearny Street, San Francisco, Cal. Send for list of questions and pamphlet.

SAMPLE BOTTLE FREE. Will be sent to any one applying by letter stating symptoms, sex and age. Strict secrecy in regard to all business transactions.

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Light and Heavy Turnouts by the day, week or month. Fine Teams a Specialty. Horses, Wagons, Buggies and Harness on hand at all times and for sale at reasonable prices.

Stolen. From our ranch September 18th, a dark bay horse (no white marks unless harness marks), weights about 1,000 pounds, and is branded as follows: T on right shoulder, U on left hip and G on right shoulder. A liberal reward will be paid for his recovery or the apprehension of the thief. CAMERON & BICKNELL, Sahara, Meagher Co., M. T.

Strayed. From near Richter & Hunt's ranch, on the Teton, one bay mare and colt, the mare with black mane and tail, narrow white strip in face, branded NG on left thigh, the bay being vent brand and newly put on. A leather halter and twelve feet of rope was on the animal when she left. The colt was about the same color and branded NG. The finder will confer a favor by leaving them with I. G. Baker & Co. Fort Benton, who will pay all charges.

\$50 Reward. Ten dollars a head reward will be paid to any person for the recovery of five head of saddle horses stolen by Indians. Four of these—one sorrel, one black, one dark buckskin with split ears, and one white—are branded horseshoe bar; and the other, a chestnut sorrel, branded 7 on left shoulder. Any person securing and holding them till we can get them will be entitled to the above reward. SUDDUTH & FRATT, Post Office address, Lavina, Meagher Co., M. T.

Taken Up. Came to the ranch of the undersigned, on the Teton, forty miles from Benton, about the 22d of August, one sorrel horse, six or seven years old, about 14 1/2 hands high, off ankle white, branded 7 on left shoulder; had head stall on and a rope around his neck. The owner can have the animal by paying charges. L. S. TRANUM.

Strayed or Stolen. From the Coal Banks, on the night of August 25th, two horses, one dapple gray, heavy set horse and one Arabian white spotted with red, both branded HO on left shoulder. A reward of \$10 will be paid for their delivery to E. W. Lewis, Park stables, Fort Benton. H. O. LYNG.