

LOCAL NOTES.

From Saturday's Daily. Mr. Phil Gibson is without doubt the happiest citizen at Great Falls. It is No 3 and a fine bouncing boy.

The following postoffices have been discontinued in Montana: Profile, Fergus county; Rapids and Huntley, Yellowstone. Service has been discontinued between Billings and Huntley.

Col. J. H. Rice and family took their departure this morning on the Helena coach for California, where they will spend the winter months. It is probable they will make general headquarters at Los Angeles. The River Press wishes them a pleasant sojourn in the land of perpetual summer.

The River Press Distribution promises to be a complete success and it has already added many new names to the large subscription roll of the Weekly River Press. We are now sending out statements of account to all old subscribers and shall be glad to issue all certificates in the Distribution. No local paper has ever before offered such inducements to its subscribers, considering the number and value of the premiums to be given away.

We learn that several letters have come to the Fort Benton postoffice recently addressed to Manitoba railroad contractors, forwarded here from points in North Dakota. This would indicate that we may soon expect some contractors here, their object, doubtless, being to look over the country with a view to bidding on work. The present indications are that the grading contracts on the Manitoba for the whole length, from Fort Buford to Fort Benton, will be let this winter so that work can be commenced at once in the spring.

From Monday's Daily. Rev. J. H. Little will return to Su-River on Thursday next.

Mr. L. V. Boggy takes G. H. Goodrich's place in the office of T. C. Power & Bro. during Mr. G.'s absence.

Gans & Klein will make an important two-column announcement to the public in a short time. Look out for it.

Mr. Alex. C. Johnson and wife arrived in the city Saturday and are quartered at the Grand Union. Mr. Johnson has been the recipient of many congratulations from his friends.

We are informed by parties from Choteau that Jos. Hirschberg, the rustling merchant of that place, is building up a fine business and that Julius, who is in charge, has his hands full at all times.

Quite a number of ranchmen from the Shonkin and Highwood were in the city to-day and several of them were made happy by receiving certificates in the First Annual Distribution of the RIVER PRESS.

The wreck on the Northern Pacific near Glyndon, Minn., in which one of the mail cars was destroyed by fire, caused the death of two of the train men and the destruction of a large amount of Montana and western mail.

Calgary will soon have another journal. It will be issued monthly and mainly devoted to the stockgrowing and ranching interests of the Northwest. We believe Thompson Bro's will be the publishers and Maj. Hatton will act as editor.

W. J. Casey, the pioneer hotel keeper, has retired from business and leaves for Wisconsin in a few days. His many friends here regret his departure and all are firm in the belief that he will return at no distant day. "Bill" has spent the greater part of his life in the wild and woolly west, and the ways of the effete and aesthe-tic east will doubtless prove too tame for him. However, the Times wishes him every success no matter where he goes.—Medicine Hat Times.

From Tuesday's Daily. The river is gradually rising and is higher now than it has been since last July, when the bottom suddenly dropped out.

The Helena coach will have a big load out to-morrow, including Mr. C. W. Price and family, Miss King, Mr. Ashby Conrad, Mr. George Westervelt and others.

The Highwood and Shonkin friends of the RIVER PRESS will be pleased to learn from our telegrams to-day that they are soon to have postoffices and regular service from this city.

Mr. John Hobbins, of the firm of Hobbins & Heffernan, will soon take his departure for Missoula county where he will spend the winter. Mr. Heffernan will go east for a few months and then proceed to the N. W. T. where the firm has sheep interests.

The RIVER PRESS Distribution is growing in the highest favor and subscriptions are rolling in from all parts of the territory. All new cash subscribers are entitled to a certificate in the Distribution as also all present subscribers who pay for the year 1887.

Those who have no need of a newspaper themselves—if there be any such—should now subscribe for the RIVER PRESS and send it to some friend for the next year. It would prove a most acceptable holiday gift and at the same time the sender would be entitled to a certificate in the Distribution.

No newspaper in the northwest has ever offered as liberal inducements to subscribers as the RIVER PRESS does this year. There is no buncombe or exaggeration about the statement that we will give away \$1,000.00 worth of property to subscribers. The list speaks for itself and the valuation placed upon articles is not excessive in the least.

The commissioners have been in regular

session yesterday and to-day, Messrs Ford and Arnoux being present. They will probably conclude their work to-morrow when a full report of the proceedings will be published. This will be the last meeting of the old board, as on Monday, the 20th, Messrs Conrad and Wegner enter upon their official duties.

Commodore T. C. Power and Capt. I. P. Baker, of the Benton Transportation company, will soon make their regular annual trip to Benton to figure up the profits and losses of steamboating on the upper Missouri. This year, owing to the drought and unprecedented low water, the red lines will be on the wrong side of the ledger and the object will be to keep the losses down to as small a margin as possible.

Sheriff Black.

Sheriff Black and wife, of Choteau, arrived in the city Sunday evening by coach from Sun River, to make their permanent abiding place in Fort Benton. Mr. Black has leased Col. Rice's residence, furnished, and they have already taken possession of the same. This is, we believe, the first experience of the sheriff elect at house keeping and as there are no stove pipes to be put up or house cleaning to be done, he will no doubt get through it in good shape. It will not even be necessary for him to "rustle for coal," as he falls heir to a nice pile of several tons left by Col. Rice.

Mr. Black is fortunate in having excellent men to "run" his sheep ranch for him during his official term. Mr. Isaac Brown, who has been in his service several years and who is a competent and trustworthy man, will have general charge, aided by a herder who has been with him five years and who can be counted upon in every emergency—even in such a storm as visited the upper country recently. With these men in charge Mr. Black is confident that every thing will go right on the Muddy, and he will see too it himself that the rest of the county keeps straight.

Letter List.

The following is a list of letters remaining in the post office at Fort Benton, M. T., for the week ending Dec. 4, 1886:

- Beck E R Houston Albert
Beers George R Hutchinson Mrs A M
Bates Robert Hobbins John
Cascadden W A Rickard Melvin
Evans L W Ricks W H
Foster Miss Ida Rainville Pierre Jos 2
Gatwood Ben Rainey Geo M
McCarthy Jim Stroul W H
Hobbs Jacob Spencer A J

Persons calling for any of the above letters will please say "Advertised." M. A. FLANAGAN, P. M.

Shonkin and Highwood Mail Route.

WASHINGTON, December 6.—A new mail route between Fort Benton, Choteau county, and Highwood by the way of Shonkin, will be established as soon as the necessary interrogatories which have been sent to the postmaster at Fort Benton have been returned and a postmaster at Shonkin has been appointed. Who the latter will be is not yet known.

Foggy Butte.

BUTTE, December 6.—A dense and persistent fog has rested upon the city for the past two days rendering travel about the city at times exceedingly difficult. Pedestrians and teams wander from the roads, get lost in old placer diggings and fall in to prospect holes, some of whom have been injured, though none seriously. Most of the time the fog contains but little smelter smoke.

All but Two.

HELENA, December 7.—All but two of the jurors in the Roberts case signed the petition for the pardon of the fated old gentlemen.

Will Gilder Get There?

A. W. Greely was asked what he thought the chances were of Col. W. H. Gilder's ever reaching the north pole. "I think they are nothing at all," he said. "I thought so when I heard that he had missed taking passage on the new London whaler. That was his opportunity to get his stores and apparatus north. Going the way he subsequently took it was impossible for him to carry as good an outfit as if he had gone by ship. Still if he can reach Marble Island on the extreme northwest of Hudson bay, where the whale ships winter, he can put himself in shape. He is above Fort York now. Gilder is a determined man and knows what he has undertaken, but he has a tremendous task before him. Why, if he should succeed in making the trip to the pole and back we should not hear of him for at least three years. He asked my advice before he went. His plans for the trip differed from my ideas. He believed in utilizing the means the Esquimaux are provided with, while I believed in utilizing the best apparatus civilized people have and then to profit by the Esquimaux experience. I brought the Englishman over to my views concerning the value of dog sledging up there. Col. Gilder's progress will be delayed in winter, not so much by cold, as by the intense darkness. Did you ever think that the nearest approach to the north pole made by Lieut. Lockwood of my party on May 13, 1882, was 393 miles, or a distance no greater than that from Albany to Washington?"

Book and Job Printing a specialty at the RIVER PRESS office.

Particulars of the Escape of the Indians at Fort Shaw.

FORT SHAW, December 2, 1886.

Editor of the River Press: I arrived here last evening in good time and found the garrison in commotion over the escape of some of the Indian prisoners in the guard house. These Indians had been in confinement for several weeks and were captured at the Blackfoot agency by Lieut. Beacom for stealing horses in the Judith. They have been very tractable and were probably on their good behavior.

Last evening about five o'clock they asked for water. The sergeant of the guard paid no attention to them until their importunities became so strong that he concluded to grant their request, and with one man with the water he opened the door of the cell. It was no sooner opened than the Indians made a rush; one of them threw a blanket over the sergeant's head, knocking him down. The man with the water seized one Indian by the hair and the man on post followed another and caught up with him in the rear of the band quarters. This fellow showing no signs of surrender, the sentinel jabbed him with a bayonet in the leg, which brought him down; the other Indians escaped. The whole affair occurred so quickly that the Indians were gone before help arrived. The worst Indian in the outfit, Black-face, the husband of Mrs. James Grant, was captured.

No blame can be attached to any one for the escape. It was entirely unexpected and the sergeant of the guard is held blameless. Deputy Sheriff C. D. Hard and Stock Inspector Watts arrived at the post to-day and the two Indians were delivered to them. Inspector Watts took them to Helena to-night, where they will be turned over to the authorities of Meagher or Fergus counties on demand of the Montana Stock association and at the request of Mr. Granville Stuart.

Lieut. Avery started out at daylight to look for the missing Indians. He returned about noon and left again with a detachment. They will probably go as far as the agency. K.

The Silver Bell Mine.

CLENDENIN, November 28, 1886.

Editor of the River Press: Allow me to correct a statement published by you as proceeding from Mr. Rowe, in which he says, in speaking of a certain company, that they own the old Silver Bell mine and all the adjacent ground. This is decidedly untrue. As the statement tends to the injury of others I feel impelled to deny it. Had Mr. Rowe confined himself to enthusiasm about those important discoveries of which he speaks I should have been pleased rather than otherwise and would not be obliged to throw cold water upon any of his remarks, nor am I obliged to do so now except to say that those prospects show no probable connection with the Silver Bell mine, which has already proved its own individuality as a mine beyond dispute and is pronounced by all competent to judge to be a vein of a well known and thoroughly understood character and the ore body remains the largest ever struck in Barker and has always been continuous, and at the shutting down of work was still as large as ever and nowhere near any ground owned by the company referred to.

Very truly, &c., H. C. POSTER.

Gold From the Sweet Grass.

Jos. Beaulieu and A. Raggio arrived Wednesday from the Sweet Grass, bringing with them \$1,000 in gold dust, which they sold to-day at the Bank of Northern Montana. This is the result of the short season's labor, water having been very scarce, and is certainly a good showing for two men. They will return to the camp with supplies for the winter soon. If next season is a favorable one for mining the Sweet Grass placers will surprise the natives.

Christmas Festival.

The official board of the M. E. church met at the parsonage recently and appointed the following committees to arrange for the forthcoming Christmas festival:

- On Subscriptions—Mrs. A. Comer, Ruby Davis, Hattie Butler, Alice Dutro, May Senieur; May Howe, superintendent; Mary Whealy, treasurer.
Arranging Tree—L. H. Rosencrans, C. Eaton, C. J. Whealy, Chas. Lippard, J. B. Terhune.
Arranging Room—Mrs. Duntly, Mrs. Cobb, Mrs. Terhune, Mrs. Eaton, Mrs. Rosencrans, Mrs. Comer.
Buying Presents—Mrs. Dan Sample, Mrs. Eaton, Mrs. Terhune, Mrs. Rosencrans.
On Singing—C. Eaton, May Howe, Mrs. S. Houston, Miss M. E. Johnstone, Ruby Davis, L. L. Rosencrans.
Decorating Tree—Chas. Lippard, J. B. Terhune, C. J. Whealy.
Distributing Presents—May Senieur, Flora Dutro.
On Speaking—Miss May Howe, Mrs. Terhune, Mrs. Cobb, Mrs. Duntly.
REV. J. VIGAS, Ch'm of Com.

Snow Creek Bonanzas.

Mr. J. H. Seifried, of Belt, arrived in the city Thursday evening, having recently come from Nelhart, where he was engaged in representing his mining property on Snow creek and also that owned by the Benton company. He confirms the general reports of activity and prosperity at Nelhart and is as sanguine as all others about that camp. Mr. Seifried thinks the mines of Snow creek (situated between Carpenter creek and Nelhart) will prove world beaters one of these days. The leads are large, rich and are easy of reduction. So far as developed no such prospects have been found in the Belt mountains. The Benton company own five contiguous

ous leads and they are developing the property by a tunnel which has now been run nearly 100 feet. As contemplated it will tap four or five leads and will doubtless show up a wonderful property. It is probable that arrangements will be made to continue work on the tunnel, than which no more important piece of work is in progress in that region.

A New Railroad Town.

Minot is on the Mouse river and is the winter terminus of the western extension of the Manitoba. It is a better town than Glendive was the first winter. Within two weeks sixty-two buildings have been erected on the main street and others on the side streets. A round-house has been laid out and altogether it bids fair to become a good permanent town. It is well supplied with good wood. Many old-timers from this road are over there and several of Glendive's former residents. The Jarvises have built, Anerson is doing well and others from here are more or less prosperous. He thinks it is a good point. Appropos to this we notice that the Manitoba has cleared its blockade and intends keeping the road open to Minot all winter.—Glendive Times.

A Wrestling Match.

MARYSVILLE, M. T. December 6.—There will be another wrestling exhibition two weeks from to-day, Dec. 19, for a purse of \$400 and the gate receipts. The gladiators are Alfred Johns, Empire, M. T., and Henry Pasco, champion of Nevada. The wrestling will be Cornish style and promises to be a very exciting affair.

Notice of Settlement.

In the Probate Court of the county of Choteau, Territory of Montana. In the matter of the estate of Robert J. Casey, deceased. Notice is hereby given that Thomas A. Uminger, the administrator of the estate of said deceased, has rendered and presented for settlement, and filed in said court, his final account of his administration of said estate and a petition for distribution of said estate, and that Wednesday, the 20th day of December, 1886, at 10 o'clock a. m., at the court room of said county at Fort Benton, in said Choteau county, has been duly appointed by the judge of said court for the settlement of said account and hearing of said petition for distribution, at which time and place any person interested in said estate may appear and file his exceptions in writing to the same. JOHN W. TATTAN, Clerk. Dated December 3d, 1886.

Sheriff's Sale.

In the District Court of the Fourth Judicial District of the Territory of Montana in and for the County of Choteau. Thomas C. Power et al., plaintiffs, vs. Geo. W. Houk, defendant. To be sold at Sheriff's sale on the 29th day of December, A. D. 1886, at 10 o'clock a. m., at the court house door, in the said county of Choteau, the following described property: Lot numbered six (6), in block numbered nine (9), as marked, numbered and designated on the official plat of the town (now city) of Fort Benton on file in the office of the clerk and recorder of Choteau county, Montana territory. Dated this 8th day of December, A. D. 1886. JAMES McDEVITT, Sheriff By GEORGE WESTERVELT, Under Sheriff. Buck & Hunt, attorneys for plaintiffs.

MERCHANTS' National Bank Of Helena.

This bank succeeds the old established and well known banking house of L. H. Hershfield & Bro.

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Associate Bank:

Bank of Northern Montana, Fort Benton M. T.

—THE—

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Give the Overland a trial and see if I do not make it pleasant for you.

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