

RAILROAD PICK-UPS.

Caught in a Flight From Helena to Benton--Wayfarers Meet in Transit--Notable Scenery Along the Missouri--Et Cetera.

The passenger depot of the Montana Central at Helena is still in a condition of magnificent confusion and the unfortunate who finds it necessary to face the dangers presented by numerous piles of debris over which he is obliged to clamber is indeed to be commiserated.

The train which left Helena bound north, had for the accommodation of travelers a passenger car so forlorn and squalid in its appointments as to suggest the idea that it might be the unhappy ghost of some old "smoker," which after having served its natural period of usefulness and reposing for a time in some railroad graveyard, had been resurrected in spirit and banished to the Rocky mountain regions, there to serve a period in bondage for crimes committed in earlier years.

Our conductor, Mr. McLaughlin, is a broad shouldered, sunny-faced giant, the extent of whose averdupois seems only equaled by the bulk of his overflowing good nature. The public may be interested to know that he is a professional collar and elbow wrestler who has known few, if any, defeats in contests of this kind, and probably has no equal at present in the United States.

Among the passengers was a gentleman in middle life and of commanding presence. His kindly face and genial manner at once made him a prime favorite with all.

It was a novel experience to cross the mighty bench land that divides Sun river valley from Montana's only seaport, in a Pullman car. But that there is already a chestnut and it may be well to drop the subject and these wandering jottings without delay.

A dark-haired, dark-eyed gentleman in clerical garb proved to be an Episcopal clergyman, the Rev. Van Ingen, who is en route to Fort Shaw to perform the marriage ceremony of Lieut. McRae, of the 3d U. S. Infantry, and Miss Stouch, the latter being the daughter of Major Stouch, who is well and favorably known in both military and civic circles throughout Montana.

At the appropriate hour of 12 m. the train halts twenty minutes at Craig where an excellent dinner is served by the veteran caterer Steve Spitzley.

On leaving Craig the scenery becomes grand and beautiful in the extreme. The road follows the devious windings of the Missouri which in some places is bound by winter's crystal fetters, and again rolls on unfettered except by rocky barriers against which it frets and chafes like an uneasy spirit.

furrowed into strange fantastic shapes and sizes. In the days that are coming when the railroad advertiser invades the spot it is safe to say that all will be named, and to many, romantic legends will be attached.

In the baggage car are six packages of express matter that awakened much interest and curiosity. The aforesaid packages are graceful in shape, kindly in disposition and fond of making acquaintances or friends.

Everything seems to be in busy operation at Great Falls. At least to a casual observer such would seem to be the fact. The round house is rapidly approaching completion and the hen coop which is used as a ticket and express office is almost ready for paint and plaster.

Among the passengers who boarded the train at this point was Cashier Phelps of the First National Bank of Great Falls. This gentleman was accompanied by his wife and child and is en route to Red Wing, Minn., for a two months holiday.

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A recent correspondent of the Rocky Mountain Husbandman, in speaking of the new officials of Cascade county, remarks that they are "good, complicated, level-herded men."

The pumps and engines for Mr. Woolston's water works are now on the way to Benton, and if the present fine weather will continue for a few days longer there will be no doubt but that the brick building will be enclosed and ready for the machinery, which in that event will commence running early in January.

The Montana paper with the longest name, and one that wears out journalistic pencils most frequently when its full title is given, is the "White Sulphur Springs Rocky Mountain Husbandman."

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Begin the New Year With Woeful Fortune.

In the city of New Orleans, La., on Tuesday, (always Tuesday), November 8th, 1887, the 210th Grand Monthly drawing of the Louisiana State Lottery took place. As is the constant custom it was under the sole supervision of Generals G. T. Beauregard, of La., and Jubal A. Early, of Va.

A Blaze at Miles City. MILES CITY, December 15.—A few minutes before 6 o'clock a. m., the building occupied by Charley Can as a Chinese wash house, was discovered to be on fire and was soon burned to the ground.

A Miner Injured at Butte. BUTTE CITY, December 13.—At noon to-day, Daniel Boyle, a miner employed at Walkerville fell from a bucket down a 30 foot shaft, and was picked up unconscious.

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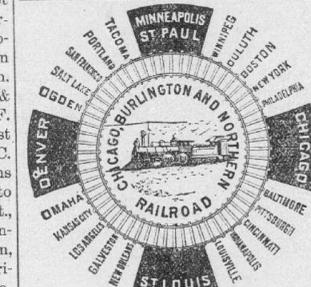
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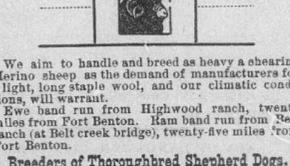
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