

AVANT-COURIER.

BOZEMAN, MONTANA. WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 20, 1871.

Short Cuts for Commerce.

The completion of the St. Lawrence Canal has given a new impetus to international communication for commerce. The Government has been probing the country on the isthmus of Darien to find a passage if possible for a ship canal, by which a short route may be obtained for ships going to and from the eastern and western extremes of the Republic, and with which to command the Atlantic trade. France connected her name with the great project of uniting the waters of the Mediterranean with those of the Red Sea. America seeks to cleave a passage through the granite mountains that rear their barriers in a tropic zone, and wed the waves of the Atlantic with the Pacific. And now Prussia, having demonstrated her invincible power in arms, and taken a front rank among the nations, turns her attention to peaceful plans of aggrandizement that will add more genuine lustre to her fame than all the martial glories that she has achieved. Her eyes are fixed on the East, and there she sees a parallel in the history of nations—of the whole world of Europe.

A Tale of Devotion.

Some years ago a Russian nobleman was traveling on special business in the interior of Russia. It was the beginning of winter, but the frost had set in early. His carriage rolled up to the inn, and he demanded a relay of horses to carry him to the next station, where he intended to pass the night. The inn-keeper entreated him not to proceed, for he said there was danger in traveling so late—the wolves were out. But the nobleman, who had traveled extensively over the peninsula of Denmark and adjoining countries, said that he was too early for wolves and ordered the horses to be put to. He then drove off, with his wife and his only daughter inside the carriage with him. On the box of the carriage was a serf who had been born on the nobleman's estate, to whom he was much attached, and who loved his master as he loved his own life. They rolled over the hardened snow, and there seemed no sign of danger. The moon shed her pale light, and brought out into bariolage the road on which they were going. At length the little girl said to her father: "What was that strange howling noise that I heard?" "On nothing but the wind sighing through the trees," the father replied. "The child shut her eyes and was quiet. But she said again: "What, father, it is not like the wind I think."

The postillion drove faster. But the same mournful sound which the child had heard approached nearer and nearer. It was clear that a pack of wolves had scented them out. The nobleman tried to calm the fear of his wife and child. At last the baying of the pack was distinctly heard. So he said to his serf: "When they come up with us, do you single out one and fire, and I will single out another, and while the rest are devouring them we shall get on."

As soon as he put down the window, he saw the pack in full cry behind the huge dog-wolf at their head. Two shots were fired, and two of the wolves fell. The others in vainly rushed upon and devoured them, and thereafter the carriage gained. But the rest of blood only made them more ferocious, and they were soon upon the carriage again. Again two more shots were fired, and two fell, and were devoured. But the carriage was soon overtaken, and the post-horn was yet far distant. The nobleman then ordered the postillion to loose one of his leaders that they might get a little time. This was done, and the poor horse frantically plunged into the forest and the wolves after him, and was soon torn to pieces. Then another horse was sent off, and shared the same fate. The carriage labored on as fast as it could with the two remaining horses, but the post-horn was still distant.

At length the serf said to the master: "I have served you ever since I was a child; I love you as my own self. Nothing can save you but one thing. Let me save you. I will only look after my wife and little ones."

The nobleman remonstrated, but in vain. When the wolves next came up the faithful fellow threw himself among them. The panting horses galloped on with the carriage, and the gates of the post house just closed in upon it as the fearful pack were on the point of making the last fatal attack. But the travelers were safe.

The next morning they went out, and saw the place where the faithful serf had been pulled down by the wolves. His bones only were there, and on the spot the nobleman erected a pillar, on which was written: "Greater love hath no man than this, that a man lay down his life for a friend." "But God commendeth his love toward us, in that while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us."

Volunteering for Vice.

(From the Des Moines Register.) The Iowa press is not swift to acquiesce in Mrs. Victoria Woodhull-Blood-Co.'s to lend its "editorial good-will" to her election into the Presidential chair. Indeed we have not seen a single paper that has been, or will be, coaxed into doing so. They all consider her good enough in her great role of living with several husbands in the same house at one time, and are willing to award her the credit of being the only living person who has accomplished it to the satisfaction of the fractional husbands; but as for anything else they don't take much stock in her. We were struck with this fact by the personal of yesterday's exchanges, from which we have clipped several paragraphs just to show the way the press handle the aspiring female. The Prairie City Index pronounced the key-note by making an apt and new application of the old caution: "Keep still, boys; there's a hen on."

A QUEER SOCIAL INCIDENT.

Late in July last the good people in the town of Lyon, Oakland county (Mich.), were much excited by an application for a divorce on the part of the wife of Samuel B. Dolph, a Detroit drover, on the ground of adultery. The wife was the daughter of a wealthy farmer of their county. Everett by name, and naturally they have watched the successive stages of the contest with rapidly increasing interest. Dolph, who had been enjoined from removing anything from a farm that was the property of his wife, attempted to take possession of the place, ejected the family living upon it and was arrested for riot. In the meantime the family he had ejected reinstated themselves, and which he retained he found them well guarded by armed men. Dolph was arrested for adultery and gave bail. Subsequently Dolph and his father visited the farm and found people cutting the crops, and for interfering with them he and his father were arrested for assault and battery, but the younger Dolph was acquitted. He then caused the crop-cutters to be arrested for assault and battery, and he also commenced proceedings for trespass, but the question of the title of the farm being interposed the case went to the Oakland Circuit, and has never come to trial. Other suits were brought by the wife, the elder and younger Dolph, and by various parties, and by such legal gentlemen as J. J. Woodman and A. C. Baldwin, of Pontiac; Sylvester Larned and Alfred Russell, of this city, were retained on one side or the other to take part in the controversies. The suit at law embraced injunctions, replevins, trespass and pretty much everything else known to the civil and criminal calendar, and the litigious bids fast to extend through several months, and perhaps years. Dolph is well-known, has many influential and wealthy friends, and the same may be said of his wife; and these, it appears, were strenuous in their efforts to keep them separated. Mrs. Dolph remained secluded at the residence of some of her friends in this city, and a policeman was employed to watch Dolph, and he being entertained that he might attempt to abduct her. This matter passed along for several weeks, and a few days since an arrangement was effected by which Mrs. Dolph was to pay her husband \$3,000, and all the suits, except that for the divorce, were to be discontinued. The papers were drawn up and signed, and the parties separated, Mrs. Dolph avowing it as her determination never to live with him again. Dolph, however, insisted that he loved his wife, and on Wednesday last a friend volunteered to effect a reconciliation between them. It is not necessary to state in detail all that occurred, but to make a long story short, we may simply announce that the plan worked like a charm. Mrs. Dolph consented to elope with her husband, and Dolph to elope with his wife. She returned to the place where she was stopping in the upper part of the Fifth Ward, packed her trunk, to be ready to move at a given time on Thursday afternoon, and Dolph prepared himself for a journey too. The friend referred to took a carriage and obtained Mrs. Dolph, and subsequently drove after Dolph. The carriage was driven rapidly to Hamtramck, where it remained until evening, and from thence the reconciled couple took passage on a train that carried them many miles away. Last night and to-day telegrams have been sent in every direction, but no traces have been discovered of Mr. and Mrs. Dolph. They are out of reach of Detroit and Pontiac lawyers, who have pocketed fees to the amount of about \$4,000, and they have sworn to forget and forgive, and hereafter live happily.

FRONTIER LIFE ON THE NORTHERN PACIFIC.

—Bayard Taylor writes: After fifteen miles of afternoon heat and dust we reached Oak Fort, a temporary camp of gamblers and Anonyms, whose tents and shanties are only anchored there until they ascertain the precise points where the North Pacific Road will cross the Red River. Then they intend to found on vice until a stern civilization drives them away. Our drivers got their revolvers in readiness before reaching the place, and some of our party did the same. I had none, and moreover, I knew from experience that the class is not very dangerous. In fact, I had scarcely stepped within the circle of curious and suspicious keepers of a saloon and received a present of cigars. One of the "hangers-on" of the place had his ear fastened to his head with court-plaster—probably the antagonist of the man we had seen in Macaulayville, with a similar ear. This barbarous biting and chewing of the features belongs only to the Anglo-Saxon savage, who is far more brutal than the Indian he curses.

THE NORTH PACIFIC ROAD WILL REACH RED RIVER BEFORE THE CLOSE OF THIS YEAR, and on this time on will be hardly able to form settlement. After its first hundred miles of forest and swamp it passes through a region wholly beautiful and fertile, and a climate constantly improving in temperature. The St. Paul and Pacific Road will also reach Breckenridge in September, and may be extended within two or three years to Pembina and Fort Garry. For some hundreds of miles, both westward and northward, there is no greater difficulty of construction than in the Platte and Mandan Valley.

"FLY BY FELLOW GOSPEL!"

—There was a Sunday-school celebration in one of the churches a week or two ago, and the minister was engaged to teach the nature of faith. So he told them the following story by way of illustration. In the deepening twilight of a Summer's evening a pastor called at the residence of one of his parishioners and found seated in the doorway a little boy with his hands extended upward, holding a line. "What are you doing here, my little friend?" inquired the minister. "Flying my kite, sir," was the prompt reply. "Flying your kite?" exclaimed the pastor. "I can see no kite, you can see none." "I cannot see it but I know it is there, for I feel it pull!" The children were all deeply interested, and the clergyman continued: "Now, in a few days after this, the mother of the little boy was about to die, and she said to him: 'My son, when I am an angel, I will come if I can, and be with you; and shield you from harm, and watch to see that you grow up to be a good man. Will you try to think sometimes that I am by your side?' And the little boy said he would. 'Now my dear children,' said the minister, 'when that blessed angel came back from heaven and hovered over her child, and placed her hands upon his head among the fair and golden hair, how did he know that she was there, for he could not see her?' 'Why, he felt her pull, of course!' roared the class in unison, and with the promptness of absolute certainty. The speaker sat down all of a sudden, and the exercises concluded with the singing of a hymn.

Of the German national song, the Rheinwälder (Die Waech an Rheln), nineteen versions into other languages have been made, of which seven are English, and three are French.

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Every Family should have a bottle of St. Homer's Bitters. It is a simple, pure, and effective remedy for all the ailments of the stomach and bowels, such as indigestion, flatulence, and constipation. It is also a powerful tonic and restorative, and is especially adapted for the young and the infirm. It is sold by all the leading druggists and grocers.

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