

GREAT FALLS TRIBUNE.

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NO 37

DIED A BORNIN'

The Great Falls No. 2 Scheme Dies Amid the Groans and Lamentations of a Score of Dupes.

Just about one year ago this office received from a friend in New York City, a copy of the prospectus of a concern styling themselves the Great Falls Improvement Company, capital of \$1,000,000. The prospectus was one glowing picture of wealth untold in the near future, and was well calculated to deceive the unwary, but to those acquainted with all the facts and extravagant claims of the company, it was but a glaring tale of incongruous impossibilities, piled one on top of the other to an unmeasurable height. At that time the TRIBUNE warned the public of the trap and prophesied its early dissolution, which fortunately has proved true, and there are but comparatively few sufferers.

The operations of the embryo corporation, according to the prospectus, were to be directed to the development of the water power of the Great or Lower falls, and to the building up of a great manufacturing center, which was confidently expected to triple gold plate the pockets of every owner of a share of stock in the concern. So nicely edited was the pamphlet, and so plausible the arguments, that visions of Vanderbiltian wealth would crowd about the vision of the unsophisticated in paralyzing numbers, and it is a wonder that the mourners are so few in number.

The whole foundation of the scheme was the acquiring of a 40 acre tract of land near the great, but inaccessible and for all time unavailable water power of the Lower falls, and now the parties who put their money in the hands of Aaron Chandler, of Fargo, the father of this gigantic but wholly impracticable project, have brought suit to recover this money, and have filed their complaint in the district court of this county. The title of the case being as follows:

Geo. N. Kneisly, M. C. Kneisly, Jos. O. Gregg and Chas. A. Roberts vs. Aaron Chandler, as trustee, Aaron Chandler, individually, E. P. Capen, F. J. Kissner, W. F. Entlich, J. E. Elsass, J. S. Bour, Mary Elsass, Smith Railsback, Daniel Moss, C. M. Palmer, H. L. Bridgman, J. W. Thompson, J. A. Murray, H. S. Jenkins, Christina Gullikson and C. P. Chandler.

The complaint sets forth that on the 2d of Aug. 1883, in the city of Fargo, D. T., the following named individuals, to-wit: Aaron Chandler, J. O. Gregg, Geo. N. Kneisly, E. P. Capen, T. J. Kissner, W. F. Entlich, J. C. Elsass, Joe A. Bour, Mary Elsass, Smith Railsback and Daniel Moss formed a co-partnership for the purpose of purchasing a certain quantity of land (40 acres) at the great falls of the Missouri river in Montana. It was agreed that the land should be acquired by Chandler, as trustee, which he did by laying Valentine script on the same.

The members of the association placed in the hands of Chandler \$18,000 which was to be used in furthering improvements on the land in question, and for which he was to render a full account. This he did in a manner, and in his statement showed that the company was indebted to him over \$5,000 for money advanced. This was the straw which broke the camel's back, hence the suit. The plaintiffs ask for judgment for \$8,000, and that Chandler be enjoined from disposing of the 40 acre lot, for which they paid \$12,000, and the actual worth of which is about \$700.

A Narrow Escape.

About 12 days ago Joe Rioux the mail carrier from Clendenin to Cora Creek was passing up the coulee leading from Dry Fork of Belt to cross over the ridge to Kibby. Near the summit he had to pass over a snow drift at least 20 feet in depth, and while doing so his horse broke through and plunged and fell with his rider under him. The unfortunate man laid in that position for six hours, when he was happily rescued from his perilous position by Louis Gosling, and luckily without even personal injury.

Religious Notes.

Rev. Clewes, ministered to the wants of the Episcopal church here very acceptably morning and evening, last Sunday. The services were held in the Huy block, and were largely attended. In the afternoon Rev. Clewes attended the session of the First Presbyterian Sunday school at the School house. In the evening the Rev. Jno. Reid preached to a goodly audience in the school house as usual. His subject was "Doubtings." He will preach next Sabbath evening.

A Ladies' Aid Society is in state of for-

mation, to be in connection with the 1st Presbyterian church.

There is a growing interest in religious and other beneficent institutions in Great Falls, and we are glad to see this because these things are all of benefit to humanity and should be fostered everywhere as they are a mark of the highest degree of civilization.

SACRAMENT.

Editor Tribune:

Please announce in your paper that I will preach at the school house next Sunday at 11 o'clock. We have very good meetings at this hour. All are invited. The sacrament will be attended to. All christian people are invited to partake with us.

Yours,

J. M. LARGENT.

Wanted.

Wanted 25 men to cut R. R. ties on the Teton 30 miles above Choteau. Price paid according to timber.

JURGUS & PRICE.

Theatre for Great Falls.

It is understood that Manager Maguire, the popular amusement manager of the territory has secured property here, upon which an opera house will ere long be erected.

The Reception.

The reception given to Rev. Clewes, by the lady members of his church and others last Saturday evening, was a very neat affair, and enjoyed by all present. Refreshments were served at 11 o'clock, after which the company dispersed.

Manitoba Engineers.

The Manitoba railroad surveyors are this side of Fort Assinaboine, running a line towards Benton. The party which has heretofore been at work between Butte and Helena has now been ordered to Great Falls to work toward Benton.—*Inter Mountain.*

A Dandy Scheme.

There should be one clause inserted in this proposed treaty with the Piegans. For all property stolen or depredations committed a sum equal to the value of the property destroyed or stolen to be deducted from their annuities and paid to the sufferers.—*Catmet.*

Prices of Furs and Pelts.

The following prices are quoted for furs and pelts for northern Montana, Wyoming, Idaho and Washington territory. No. 1 skins, extra sizes and colors: Beaver, \$7 to \$10; bear, black or grizzly, \$7.50 to \$10; otter, \$6 to \$8; fisher, \$5 to \$8; mink, 25 to 50 cents; marten, \$1 to \$3; foxes, \$2 to \$5, according to color; lion, \$2.50 to \$5; wildcat, 50 cts. to \$1; wolverine, \$2 to \$4.50; badger, 50 cts. to \$1; coyote, 50 cts. to \$1; wolf, \$2 to \$4; skunk, striped, 30 to 50 cts.; elk, deer, mountain sheep and antelope, 7 to 19 cts. a pound.

Not in Possession of the Facts.

Is it not a most unusual proceeding to bind a worthless fellow over to wait the action of the grand jury and put the county to considerable expense for simply making a "gun play"? In such a case a fine or imprisonment, or both, ought to fill the bill of punishment. Justices of the peace cannot be too careful and cautious in the matter of binding prisoners over to await grand jury action.—*Press.*

Evidently the *Press* is not in possession of the facts of the case, to which reference is made by the above. The charge upon which Bly was arrested, is punishable only by imprisonment. The evidence in the case was so positive, that Bly's attorney thought best to waive examination, and Judge Huy had no alternative but to bind the prisoner over to await the action of the grand jury.

Now is the Time.

Beginning on the 1st of February I will close out everything in winter goods at less than cost for ten days only. I will give special bargains in blankets, comforts, Eider Down Jersey cloths, dress goods, wool hose, hoods, ladies' and children's underwear, astrakhan cloak trimmings, ladies' and children's hats and caps, winter lined shoes, dress flannels, silks, plushes and velvets. Big reduction in carpets.

All the above goods and many others will be sold at cost and less for cash.

Ten days only. Do not wait until too late, but buy while the goods are in season. C. P. Thomson, Central Avenue Great Falls.

Clothing made to order. Agency for new Singer sewing machine. tf

Mills & Averill the fashionable merchant tailors of St. Louis. Samples on exhibition and measures taken by C. P. Thomson. Central Ave., Great Falls. tf

THE BELT COUNTRY.

Something Regarding the Country and its Mines, Creeks, Rivers and Magnificent Scenery.

For the Tribune:

This section of country, easy of access, of magnificent capabilities, and as yet thinly settled, will in the near future be one of those localities, whose future will be indissolubly bound up with the destinies of Great Falls.

The writer of this article has traversed this region in every direction for the past eleven years, and the more explorations I make, the more am I impressed with the fertility of the soil, and its wealth of mines and forests. The watershed is drained by a multitude of rivulets and creeks, which form tributaries of the Judith, Arrow and Belt rivers on the north and east.

The most direct route to reach this section of the country from the town of Great Falls is by way of Belt (Castner's) a distance from here of 20 miles. Arrived at this creek, we have left the rolling prairies behind us, and have reached the foothills of the Highwood range. Few views of the same beauty can be found, than Belt creek furnishes in the summer time when the Cottonwood trees are in full foliage, and Belt creek rushing with its mad impetuosity to join the turbid Missouri. For about 24 miles of its length this valley is now thickly settled with enterprising pioneers and their families. When the writer was here in 1873, the vicinity was famous for Black bear, deer, lynx, wildcats, etc., now it is famous for its coal, grain, sheep, vegetables, etc. About two miles from this point is one of the chief landmarks of the whole country—Belt butte. This Butte is only accessible on the north-east side, the remaining sides being precipitous by reason of the thick band or belt of sandstone, which girdles the butte, and from which it takes its name. The geological formation of this butte is very interesting, the whole of it except about 50 feet on top being the fresh water coal formations of the Dakota groups. Early Cretaceous, the balance being the Maine formation of the Benton groups, showing the petrified sea shells yet on the summit. A few years ago a war-house of the Indians, was in existence on the highest point, from which they used to signal by night to other parties. Near the base of this butte winds the Billings stage road, which leaving Belt creek, passes this way on its route to Cora creek. This Cora creek is a mere rivulet, but is well known for being a junction for stage lines at the station at this point. The proprietor Mr. Cressop being known throughout the country for his genial hospitality. On the bluffs on the east side of Cora creek a few years ago a large aerolite was seen to fall about two miles from the station. Diligent search has been made at various times, but its fragments have not yet been discovered.

Leaving Cora creek, our writer passes over the bench lands above Otter creek for about eight miles (the massive peaks of the Highwood being apparently much closer than they really are) when we reach what is termed the Rocky Ridge, being an exact counterpart of "the rocky road to Dublin" we read about. This rocky ridge appears to be a Basaltic dyke carrying considerable iron trending N. W. to S. E. and apparently forming a connection between the Highwood and Belt mountains. In Williams creek below the ridge, the walls of the dyke are very plain, and almost perpendicular. The road after crossing Williams creek ascends a high bench land, which rises between Williams and Otter creek, and is followed for about four miles when it turns abruptly to the north-east, forming a divide between Williams and Arrow creeks. Leaving the plateau we reach a low sag, which has a low hill on the left, and it is here undoubtedly that the railroad for Judith Basin will make its entry, for as fine a site cannot be found elsewhere, for no tunnelling will be required in passing from Otter to Arrow creek. From Rocky Ridge to this point, the sparsely settled condition of the country is forcibly impressed upon an observer, yet here are homes for hundreds of settlers, many gently sloping hills, with murmuring rills in the hollows—the soil magnificent, and wood within 6 and 8 miles, what more is needed to an enterprising settler.

Descending a short hill from the sag mentioned before, the head of the west fork of Arrow creek is reached; the long line of bluffs, tier behind tier, so characteristic of this creek stretching north-east to the bad lands. Passing Hay Bros. sheep ranch, numerous coulees come in from the right which in the summer time nearly all have running water. Passing

the Geyser station, neatly kept by W. Fize, I here turned to my right, and at three miles distance reached the fine ranch of McCarthy Bros.

Proceeding six miles in a south-west direction we reached the Dry Fork of Arrow (or Bain's coulee) which heads in the Belt mountains immediately east of Hughesville. The coulee is very flat till the mountains are reached when it assumes a rolling character. Wolf butte stands there on our left, a rocky, strange shaped sentinel mountain, semi-detached from the range. Proceeding south up the coulee the scenery becomes wilder especially on the east side, limestone precipices being visible on every side. Most of the trees having been killed by fire however, gives the hills a desolate appearance. A little further on, on the west side, a low gap is observable on the north end of Barker Baldy, from which a coulee descends to the valley. Midway up this coulee, a gigantic limestone reef crosses the valley, through which either wind or water has hollowed a natural arch of gigantic size, making the reef a natural bridge of size unequalled in this section of the country.

Leaving this part of Dry Arrow, and going S. W. about a quarter of a mile in a low sag east of Gold Run Baldy we find another natural curiosity in the shape of an ice cave. The entrance is rather difficult to find unless a person is well acquainted with the locality. It is just high enough for a person to enter, and the floor inclines somewhat down. At a depth of about 35 or 40 feet we come to a small room, which is covered with an unknown thickness of ice. This ice never melts summer or winter, and in the summer months is a great resort for deer, etc., who must find the cave very pleasant in the hot months, as their tracks down the cave are then very numerous.

Explorations in this coulee will undoubtedly reveal other natural curiosities, as a limestone formation is generally prolific of these wonders. Of mineral lodes, I shall say nothing in this paper but leave it for some other time. A natural pass exists on the S. E. end of this valley which is not accessible for wagons, but is a good pony trail. Returning to the mouth of the coulee and passing around Wolf butte our attention is irresistibly drawn to the cyclopean masses of rock torn from its ridge and hurled down the slope. Looking at our compass too, we find that the needle will not remain still, indicating the presence of large masses of mineral. On our left in the coulee we are following down, the limestone shales in the cut banks are of brilliant variegated colors, yellow, green, blue, etc., which give an unusual appearance to the landscape. These gradually disappear as we reach the creek bottom, where we arrive at Surprise creek the boundary line of Fergus and Meagher counties.

(Concluded next week.)

Why Not?

Would it not be well to invite our two naturalists, Robert S. Williams and Fred Anderson each to deliver at least one lecture during the present winter to the people of Great Falls. These young men possess rare ability in scientific pursuits, and are thoroughly devoted to their specialties, ornithology and botany. Perhaps neither has or as yet made his appearance as a lecturer before an audience, but I will venture the opinion that both of these students can deliver lectures upon their favorite subjects that will be exceedingly interesting and replete with valuable information. Let our young men arrange, if possible, for two or more lectures the present season.

Northern Pacific Branch.

We have learned from an authoritative source, that it is the intention of the Northern Pacific railroad to build to Great Falls next season. In fact work upon the Helena end has already commenced. The road will run to Marysville, thence through some practicable pass in the mountains, entering Sun river valley near the upper end and traversing it to Great Falls. Our authority for this came second-hand from T. F. Oakes, and may be considered reliable.

Mr. and Mrs. Chas. Wegner's friends to the number of thirty-five, armed with musical instruments and well filled baskets made a descent upon their domicile last Wednesday evening unannounced. The surprise, which was intended, was complete, and ageneral good time was had.

The Manitoba engineers under Mr. Barclay, are making rapid progress in this direction.

ANSWERS TO THE ANXIOUS.

A Few Samples of Letters Which Daily Find Their way Into This Office.

Great Falls is attracting attention among all classes of people, and in all parts of the United States. The TRIBUNE is daily in receipt of from one to half a dozen letters from parties seeking information regarding Montana in general and particularly about Great Falls. While we are always anxious to accommodate all with the information desired, it is becoming a task which requires more time than we have to spare.

We append below a few letters received this week, together with the desired information, as near as we can give, and hope it will not only serve to enlighten the parties themselves, but also others desiring like information:

SAN JOSE, CAL., Jan. 19, 1887.

Tribune Co., Great Falls Mont.

Enclosed find ten cents, for which please send sample copy of your paper. I can not find the name of your town on the N. P. R. map, and wish you would give me the location thereof. Also some information in regard to the prices of land in the vicinity of Great Falls. How large a town have you, etc.

Respectfully,
K. O. S.

Great Falls is located at the head of the falls of the Missouri, one hundred miles north and east of Helena. Daily coaches run between Helena and Great Falls. Land is valued according to the improvements upon it, varying from \$3 to \$50 per acre. Government land within a few miles of Great Falls can be secured by the act of congress governing such lands. The population of Great Falls is about 500.

Next is a letter, upon the envelope of which was the following inscription:

I want to go to Great Falls, in the territory of Montana, and be presented to the editor of the Great Falls TRIBUNE.

OBERLIN, KAS., Jan. 17, 1887.

Editor. Dear Sir:

Will you have the kindness to send me a copy of your paper. I am anxious to find a good point to locate in business, and am told your town has a good outlook for the future. Has it?

Yes, indeed, Great Falls has a very promising outlook. Personal observation on your part would, perhaps, be more satisfactory.

CROOKSTON, MINN., Jan. 18, 1887.

Editor Great Falls Tribune:

DEAR SIR:—I wish to go to the Great Falls. Please inform me the most direct route from Crookston in Minnesota to Great Falls, Montana, and what building lots are worth there, and if I could go by steamboat from Bismarck to Great Falls, and if you think a lady with some small children would, with small means, be able to earn a livelihood by a restaurant or some other respectable way of working, and is it very cold there, and what the cost of living and building is; and is it a terrible place for a family as I have been told, and would it pay to take a team of horses there. Please give me what information you can and oblige,

Yours Respectfully,
A. E. W.

Take Northern Pacific railroad from St. Paul to Bismarck, where you can take boat (during season of navigation) to Ft. Benton, and thence by stage to Great Falls, distance 40 miles; or continue by rail to Helena, and thence by stage to this place, distance 100 miles.

Regarding price of building lots, can give you no satisfactory answer: better correspond with Townsite Co.

Woman's labor is in demand here at good wages, and you could likely do very well.

Yes, it gets cold here sometimes, but as a whole our winters are much pleasanter than those in the middle states.

The cost of living depends entirely how you live. Day board is \$7 per week. A small family can live upon \$40 per month. No, we do not consider it a very terrible place for a family.

No, it would not be advisable for you to bring a team of horses.

The Railway Boom.

Contractor Larson is in the city. He says that daylight will shine through the two Montana Central tunnels in three weeks and that the work will soon be finished. He admitted further, that Harry Abbott of his corps was establishing a camp three miles this side of Marysville, preparatory to engaging in the work of constructing the Marysville branch of the Northern Pacific. There is at that point some heavy rock work, which will give employment to a crew of men at once. The grading will be begun as soon as the frost is out of the ground and will be ready for the rails in three months from that time.—*Independent.*

A large stock of Singer sewing machines on hand at the agency of C. P. Thomson.