

**In Bleak Alaska.**  
When Secretary Seward bought Alaska from Russia he added to the United States a territory of much larger area than the states of New York, Pennsylvania, Ohio, Michigan, Wisconsin and Missouri together, and nearly nine times larger than England and Wales. The territory stretches out so far to the westward, that Sitka, its capital, is only half way from New York city to the most western Alaskan island. Many of the details of the formation of Alaska read like quotations from fairy tales. It has a volcano eight thousand feet high. The Yukon river is at some points from fifteen to twenty miles wide, its entire length is two thousand miles, and it empties with such a volume into the sea that the ocean is said to be fresh water for ten miles out. The temperature does at times fall as low as 58 degrees below zero, but as a rule it is mild, on account of a sort of gulf-stream known as the Japanese current. It was Peter the Great who set on foot the expedition which finally discovered Alaska. It was in 1725 that the explorers set out to cross Siberia toward the east, and one of their leaders was Behring, a Dane, who had been long in the Russian service. He did not land in Alaska until seventeen years later, and died on one of the islands off the shore, which bears his name and where his body now lies. Spain, England and France also sent out exploring expeditions, and Russia established a trading company, which sold the furs of the region. But in 1867 Secretary Seward effected a purchase of Alaska for the United States, which paid Russia \$7,200,000; and a little more than two years ago it was organized as a civil and judicial district. At present the chief industries are carried on by the fishery and seal-fur companies. In 1880 the catch of salmon was 8,000 cases; in 1883, 36,000 cases, and in 1885, 65,000 cases, at about five dollars a case. The magnitude of the fur operations may be seen from the fact that between 1871 and 1883, about \$5,000,000 was paid by the company to the United States government as rent and tax. There are also mines of coal, lead, copper, silver and gold, and a vast growth of fine spruce and cedar, which will some day prove of great value to the people of the United States. Lieut. Schwatka has twice been on expeditions to the great northwest territory, and reports of his discoveries are full of interest.

**A Base Ball Sermon.**  
The Rev. Mr. Woolsock, popularly known as "The Deacon," in his sermon on the creek Sunday, as reported by the Oil City Derrick, made a few remarks pertinent at base ball. Pointing out of the window at a game in progress on the adjoining Wilson flats, he said: "See that loafer with a bird cage on his head standing like a straddle bug behind the bat. He is not desecrating the Sabbath day by playing ball because he isn't playing ball. He can't play ball. He imagines he can, of course, and he goes through all the painful contortions of a real ball player; but in the devil's score book he is charged ten times over for every error, and a nice record he will have when the season is over and the time for his eternal rest is at hand. It will be a sorry eternal rest for him."

Just then some one made a long hit and a shout went up from the crowd. "Yes, hoopla!" yelled the deacon, raising his voice above the din. "Hoopla till the cows come home, but unless you raise your voices in hosannas to the Lord, you will never reach the shining home plate of everlasting life. That was a long hit to center and I give his nibs the credit of taking it in, but the devil will take him in just as slick on the last inning of all. You may send in your curved balls, and mash the nose to the right or left field; you may steal from bag to bag and slide in home on your pantaloons, but finally you will get a goose egg in the kingdom come. Aye, pound on the pearly with your base ball bat, but if there is a show of a Sunday game in it, down to the eternal roast you go. St. Peter careth not whether you belong to the Snappers or Whangdoodles; if you swing the festive willow and pound the bags on Sunday, salt-peter will not save you. There goes another long hit to left, and another howl goes up from the assembled multitude of duds and loafers. Chase the ball, aye, leg it till your ungodly heels beat a tattoo on your coat tails, but my word for it the devil will never get away from your elbow. Old Clootie is a base runner and a ball chaser himself, and he will stay with you till his own dominions freeze over and have to be abandoned for an ice pond."

The deacon made a few more remarks exhorting his hearers to shun the seductive ball grounds and the trout ponds on Sunday, and announced service next Sabbath morning and evening at the red school house on Sugar creek.

At Spring Hill, in Beaverhead county, on the 24th ult., three Indians, who were under the influence of liquor, approached the house of Mr. Phillips and assaulted Mrs. Phillips and Mrs. Glead, her daughter, they being alone in the house. The latter seized a gun which happened to be standing near and held them in check, scaring two of them away and holding the third until help arrived. It is understood that Mrs. Phillips' dress was badly torn in the encounter. The Indian was arrested on the charge of attempt to commit rape. A preliminary examination was held but the evidence was not sufficient to bind him over to the grand jury.

A printer up in Canada is 103 years old. He has made so many typographical errors during his career that he is afraid to die.

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**TUESDAY, JULY 5,**  
at the room now occupied by said stock, in Hefferlin Block, Livingston, M. T., all of the said Stock and Fixtures, not previously disposed of.

Parties desirous of securing a bargain on the whole or a portion of the said stock can do so by figuring with the undersigned for the next 10 days.

**JOHN A. M. GILBERT, Mortgagee.**  
Dated, Livingston, June 24, 1887.

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REAR OF OFFICE.

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**STRAYED**—from our range on Sweetgrass, 1 gray mare (marked 30, left hip and her yearling); 2 gray fillies and sorrel gelding. Also two large sorrel mares and yearlings, 1 iron gray mare and two others, amounting to thirteen head, all branded on left shoulder. Anyone giving information leading to the recovery of the above will be liberally rewarded.  
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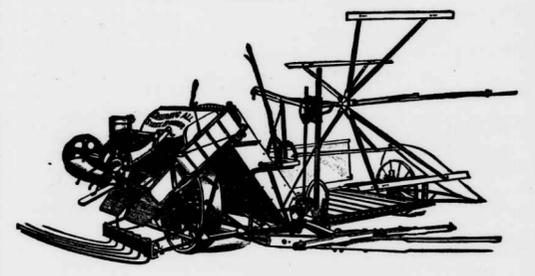
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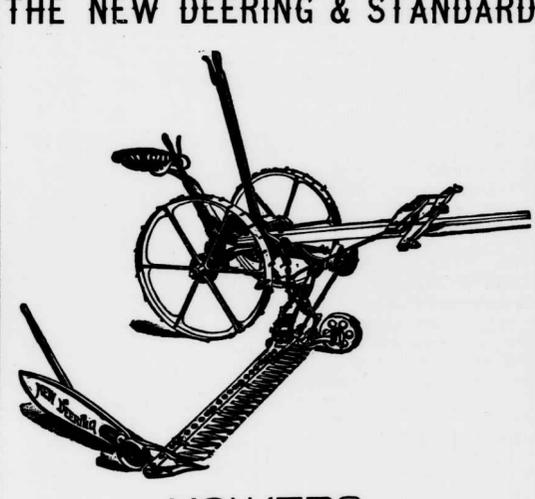
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Our cutting and fitting department is complete and we will guarantee satisfaction  
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A FINE LINE OF TEAS ALSO IN STOCK.  
The patronage of the public is respectfully solicited.  
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