

C. P. THOMSON,

Dry Goods and Shoes

HOUSE FURNISHINGS,

SINGER SEWING MACHINES

Merchant Tailoring.

AGENT FOR BUTTERICK'S PATTERNS.

Masonic block.

Central avenue.

LOCAL BREVITIES.

This has been a week of sunshine. Republican reader read the Leader. Mr. Nathan is taking great steps in advertising. The jail has been moved to Third avenue South. Mr. L. DeLeary went to Helena last Wednesday. The boys were short of firecrackers on the Fourth. There were a great many teams in town last Monday. Mrs. McClelland will start on a trip to the East tomorrow. Barnes & Collett have sold about 100 lots in Fairview addition. Mr. McClelland has been considering the purchase of a horse. Mr. Albrecht has received another consignment of fine furniture. Phil Gerlach has had the front of his building decorated with a sign. John Leply, a cattle king from the Shookin, was in town this week. Mosquitoes have been presenting their bills since the first of the month. C. H. Austin, a sheepman from Gorham, has been in town this week. Dan McKay would have won the boat race the Fourth if he hadn't lost it. A surfacing gang has been at work on the sidewalk to the wool warehouse. The hotels of the city have been doing a first-class business the past two weeks. A number of wool-buyers from Fort Benton spent their Fourth in Great Falls. Some good work has been done this week filling up holes on Central avenue. Mrs. A. B. Fairfield is now established in her new quarters in the Collins building. Messrs. Lord Brothers expect to open a variety store in the Lapoyre building soon. Messrs. Hanks & McClelland have sold 28 lots in Highland Park addition this week. Major Buttz of Buttzville, Dakota, has been in town for some days past on business. The diverse Fourth of July committees had a meeting last night to make their reports. It is said that during the great hail storm last week hail-stones as large as oranges fell. Geo. Westervelt and Ben Webster, wool buyers from Benton, were in the city this week. J. H. McKnight has formally turned over his stock of groceries to Messrs. Bach, Cory & Co. Mr. F. M. Morgan is somewhat under the weather, being afflicted with an attack of hay fever. E. Anderson of Spring Valley, Ills., superintendent of the Sand Coulee coal mines, is in the city. We notice a fine display of gents' furnishing goods in the show window of the new brick clothing store. John Glass' building has been moved up along side of Murphy, Macley & Co.'s warehouse on Central avenue. J. D. Taylor, our enterprising boat house man has been considering the advisability of buying a steam yacht. The managers of the B & B restaurant are taking a rest and the restaurant has not been running for the past week. Mr. William Roberts has about completed two nice little cottages, corner of First avenue North and Sixth street. A frame building, corner of First street and Fourth avenue South, is being built. It will be used for a restaurant. The Hemphill & Vine Concert and Convention company will give a free concert in the Presbyterian church this evening. Among the visitors to Great Falls on the Fourth were R. S. Ford and family of San River and George D. Ahern, U. S. A., Fort Shaw, Montana. Messrs. Murphy, Macley & Co. have an immense stock of syrups on hand, judging from the number of kegs piled up in front of their store. Mr. Swardfarger of Belt, who has 2,000 head of sheep, expects to bring in his wool clip in about 10 days. He has leased the band of J. T. Lee. Anyone who wants carpenter-work done will do well to see Sils White. He is a first class man. Mr. White's shop is near the Great Falls meat market. George A. Wells of Cora has disposed of his sheep and will return to his old business in Helena in company with J. Switzer, which he left years ago. We must apologize for the appearance typographically of some articles in last week's paper. Some of the proof was overlooked instead of looked over. McQuigg & Gehring teams from Dupuyer creek came in this week with a portion of their wool. They have leased the sheep owned by J. H. Fairfield.

Mr. C. E. Beal, a sheep man from Box Elder, has been in the city this week on business, and A. W. Kingsbury, a cattle king from the Big Sag, was also in town. Mr. C. T. Day intends to put up several private telephones in Great Falls soon. The Cashman telephones are meeting with splendid success throughout the west. A scene occurred on Central avenue Fourth of July morning that was not down on the programme. A half hour's amusement was furnished by a bulky horse. Hon. W. E. Cullen, attorney general for the territory of Montana, in connection with W. F. Sanders, attorney for the Northern Pacific, came in on the evening train last night. The editor of the Helena Herald who attended the recent convention at Great Falls has given the Sand Coulee coal mines a great send-off. The full development of these mines will be a great boon to this city. When the train pulled out for Helena the morning of the Fourth, a belated passenger who was evidently anxious to get away from Great Falls ran from the depot to the other side of the river to catch the train. Messrs. S. C. Ashby & Co. one day this week delivered 26 mowing machines to farmers in this vicinity. This is a fact that speaks for itself, and shows obviously the future significance of agriculture in northern Montana. When we read of the hot weather they are having in the east and the numerous prostrations, we are sorry for them; but, now natural it is that we should give ourselves a little punch in the ribs, smile and say, "what a glorious climate is this!" Some shop lifting occurred in Great Falls last Thursday. Articles of value were stolen from the New York Cash Bazaar. However, Mr. Beckon, the proprietor, recovered the goods soon after they were stolen. The shop lifters were females. An interesting specimen of petrified wood is on exhibition in front of the townsite company's office. It weighs 550 pounds and is but a portion taken from a petrified tree. It was discovered near Sun River and was brought here by A. M. Rowles. Stephen Spitzley was in town this week. He expects to give up his situation at Craig as soon as dining cars are put on the Montana Central and Manitoba roads. He has been offered the boarding house at Sand Coulee, which he will probably take charge of. Joseph Sullivan, the harness maker of Fort Benton, is having the store lately occupied by L. L. Israel, refitted for a harness store. Mr. Sullivan is an experienced harness maker, and expects to move here with a large stock of goods as soon as his building is completed. The bids have been received for the erection of an Episcopal church in Great Falls this summer. Rev. H. E. Clowes is in town looking after the matter. Bishop Brewer has signed a contract to build a five thousand dollar church within two or three years at Great Falls. Mr. Jones, representing the Home Library Association, has been doing very well in this little city. He has received a letter from headquarters which stated that he is to drive all competing library associations out of the territory. Mr. Jones makes a salary of \$5,000 per year. He is an attorney-at-law, but it stands him in hand to be a book agent as well. An amusing incident occurred last Wednesday. While the expectant people were waiting for the horse-racing two men on horseback started across the prairie. Good speed was made and a good jolting given the fellow on behind. The crowd yelled and the horse went the faster. When the fellow was able to stand it no longer, he alighted upon the ground amid the cheers of the people. We are in receipt of Vol. I, No. 1, of the Evening Item a newspaper established at Missoula. The item is a 5-column paper, well printed, and will advocate the principles of the republican party. We trust the little vessel will not encounter any irrefragable rocks upon the sea of journalism, and as it carries the banner of protection, we see no reason why it should.

The weekly Telegraph, published at La Porte City, Iowa, says: "The general interest that has been taken in the opening of the Montana Indian reservations is shown by the large numbers of people who have already gone to Great Falls to investigate the mineral and agricultural resources of that wonderful country. The low excursion rate announced by C. H. Warren, general passenger agent of the St. Paul, Minneapolis & Manitoba railway makes the expense of exploring this country merely nominal, and will undoubtedly result in a still larger number following."

A. W. Kingsbury is in town looking after his wool and real estate interests in this vicinity. Mr. Kingsbury started into the sheep business near Cascade 12 or 15 years ago and has had marked success. In the spring of 1879 he became interested in the cattle business in company with Messrs. Davenport and Jay of Helena, and located near Shookin creek in what is known as Big Sag, about 40 miles southeast of Fort Benton, where he has made a fortune in that business. Mr. Kingsbury was early impressed with the future growth of Great Falls, and has invested largely in real estate in this place.

Mr. Schiller, a new-comer to Great Falls, met with quite a severe accident on the Fourth. After having heard the Goddess of Liberty colicized, he on his way back to the hotel, was knocked over by a cow-boy's horse driven at break-neck speed through the streets. This is another exemplification of that kind of liberty too often taken. Mr. Schiller was an unconscious and some time elapsed before he recovered consciousness. A short time after the accident he said that he knew nothing about what had happened, and that he felt no very bad effects. Mr. Schiller is building a store-room on Central avenue and intends to open a boot and shoe store.

It is an interesting fact that newspapers in all parts of the United States have made favorable mention of Great Falls, and that its fame has reached both oceans. These gratuitous accounts of this city's wonderful natural advantages will greatly augment its population. Great Falls is a small city now, but it is growing; that it will have a great future we have no doubt, for nothing but lapse of time will show how great will be the metamorphosis. The people have come to Great Falls to begin life anew, to build new homes and to form new associations. Many of them are in moderate circumstances now, but they are prospering, and their industrious habits are the stepping stones to their amelioration.

We have noticed in some of our exchanges that "Great Falls is filled with burglars and bunco." This is very uncomplimentary to the press gang, if they have reference to that gang. We are led to believe that our contemporaries are prone to indulge in hyperbolic statements. We get around over this little town every day of our lives and we have not been impressed with the idea that it is replete with hard characters. We made mention of the fact in our last that two robberies had been perpetrated in this town and at the same time gave notice to the burglar or bunco to leave the city, but as the circulation has no circulation amongst that class of characters we are led to believe that they did not see the notices. We see people on the streets this morning who are not given to getting gold dishonestly, hence we can arrive at no other conclusion than that our exchanges have stretched the story.

Information has been received from Marysville that Frank C. Loveland, a plasterer from this town, shot his mistress several times and then killed himself on the morning of the third. It is said that the woman who goes by the name of Cordelia, has been at a dancing hall there for some time, and that Loveland, who knew her previously, and claimed that she had promised to marry him followed her there from Great Falls. He tried to induce her to return with him to Great Falls. It appears that he fired three shots at the woman, but none of them taking serious effect. When the third shot was fired, she fell to the floor apparently dead; he then placed the revolver to his own breast, and shot himself through the heart. She was not dangerously wounded and will likely recover. Loveland was about 35 years of age and formerly lived in Hartford Conn. He has no relatives in this territory.

The following were guests at the Park hotel during the week: T. W. Sharpe, Helena; C. B. Egan, Spring Valley, Illinois; Miss M. Pickman, Helena; W. W. Stewart and wife, Helena; C. T. Woodman, Helena; L. Perkins, Helena; J. Sands, Helena; M. Sands, Helena; A. E. Wilcox, Chicago; John Leply, Benton; E. Anderson, Spring Valley, Illinois; D. Proce, Benton; George A. Wells, Cora; Frank and Lyon, Detroit; J. S. Haltsman, St. Paul; A. W. Paul and wife, Three Forks; James Handly, Three Forks; C. E. Rynum, Bozeman; E. B. Hoag, Evanston, Illinois; H. S. England, Choteau; A. Pierce and wife, Starbuck; G. W. Scott, Dakota; J. W. Caskeford, Fort Shaw; Dr. S. W. Kelly, Three Forks; J. J. Ellis, wife and child, Sun River; D. H. Churchill, Elm; C. H. Austin, Gorham; Herbert Holloway V. S., Helena; George Pickard, Choteau; Miss Addie Steell, Sun River; Jesse G. Taylor, Choteau; A. P. Mead, Highwood; J. G. Thain, Highwood; Miss Gray, Highwood; Miss Nottingham, Highwood; Ben Webster, Benton; George Westervelt, Benton; W. B. Edgar, St. Louis; George W. Benedict, Benton; Jas. Macnaughton, New York; Major Fields, Belknap agency; John Wright, Belknap agency; Alexander Work and wife, Choteau; E. L. Jackson, Philadelphia; E. S. York, wife and family, Smelter; Miss Fizzle, Leonard; St. Louis; Miss Lizzie Flowers, Helena; C. E. Beal, Box Elder; All Kingsbury, Benton; J. B. Wilson, Helena; Miss Kate Wilson, Helena; Miss Bertha Wilson, Mrs. J. D. Thompson, Pittsburg; Mrs. S. E. Tatum, Pittsburg.

We have had another glorious Fourth of July with its pleasing associations and patriotic demonstrations. The day was a cool and delightful one. In the morning about 10 o'clock the procession formed and proceeded to the grove by the river. Judge Bacon made an appropriate opening address, which was followed by a prayer by Rev. Head. The Declaration of Independence was then read by Mr. Wilcox. The orator of the day, Chas. M. Attorney Taylor then delivered an eloquent and creditable oration. Judge Bach was called to the platform, and entertained the assembly with pleasing witticisms and well drawn similes. His remarks were succeeded by an address from C. M. Webster, which abounded with that gentleman's characteristic humor. A song by Mr. Hawkins and music by the band added to the listeners' enjoyment. The people dispersed about noon and reassembled in the afternoon to witness the

horse racing. In the evening a large crowd gathered on the river bank to see the boat race on Broadwater bay. After the fire works the Pioneer firemen gave a grand ball at the Park Hotel. Everything passed off pleasantly and a good time was had by everyone. The first three heats in the trotting race were won by Bruno, an animal belonging to Mr. Horst. Mr. Conway's Sparta and Biddy, belonging to Mr. Todd, were defeated. Selkirk, belonging to Mr. Conger won the quarter mile single dash, Daylight, Eattie and White Mark, belonging respectively to Mr. Rammall, Mr. Colter and Mr. Brathwaite, came in in the order named. Daylight won the stakes in the half-mile dash, White Mark coming in second. In the foot race Whitcomb defeated Beal, Whitcomb, Dan McKay, Ike Fry, Joe Pieper, Fred Thurston and Robinson participated in the boat race. McKay was in the lead for some time, but he went around a false buoy and was compelled to turn and ground the right one. Whitcomb won the race. Lyon and Sharp won the double scull race, Macnaughton and Chemidill came in second. The tub race was won by Dave Guatermuck.

We went down to the great wool warehouse Thursday last, and found on store an immense quantity of wool 16 car-loads. There are about 800 bales of 200 pounds to the bale, and a great many part lots in. R. S. Ball, C. A. Beal, Thomson Bros., Charles and Fred Zimmerman formerly lauded their wool to Benton, but they bring it to Great Falls now. S. M. Dickey, Box Elder has his wool on store there. Lehard Lyon's clip was shipped Wednesday in the first car of wool shipped from Great Falls. Mr. Putnam of Boston and Sam Wilkinson of San Francisco, wool buyers have been in town this week. Mr. Sharp, George Benedict and Thomas Ryley, commission men from Boston, and James McNaughton from New York City have also been in Great Falls this week. Austin & Taylor of Casco have a nice clip of wool in the warehouse, also Joseph Allen, George Bicket, O. G. Cooper, Siems & Arrington and J. T. Murphy. The Creek Sheep Company who formerly shipped to Billings will have their wool brought to Great Falls this year. The clip this year is in much better condition than last.

TOWN IMPROVEMENT.

Bach, Cory & Co. are building a warehouse adjoining their store on Central avenue, and have recently put some fine shelving in their store.

The Schiller building on Central Avenue between Third and Fourth streets is nearing completion.

There are several brick and two frame buildings going up in the southern part of the city.

There is now a good sidewalk on Second street between Central and First avenue south.

Great Falls will have a new passenger and freight depot by the first of September.

William E. Kern is erecting a story and a half house on Sixth avenue North. The location is a beautiful one and is fast becoming one of the favorite building places in the city.

Work on the reduction works progresses steadily. The brick assay office, a fine looking building, has its walls nearly up. The foundation of the large company office has been laid. The walls of a handsome cottage to be the residence of the general manager are going up rapidly. Work on the main buildings is being pushed. Three or four freight trains a day are hurrying on material to the works.

The building back of the Rocky Mountain Telegraph Co's office is being torn down and it is intended to utilize the material in building and addition to the Israel building on Central avenue. Mr. T. E. Collins is having the Lapeyre building up with counters and shelving, and Messrs. Lord Bros. intend to put in it a stock for a variety store.

Great Falls and Vicinity.

It is reported that several important and rich discoveries of silver quartz have been made at the head of Sand Coulee, near Tiger Butte. They are said to lie in deposits, like the mines at Leadville. A camp has been started named Tiger, and is distant about 15 miles.

John C. Paulsen, the architect, spent Saturday and Sunday in Great Falls, looking after the buildings that Paulsen and McConnell are the architects and superintendents for, including the residence of H. W. Child, assay office, etc., at the smelter. Mr. Paulsen says that fires will be lighted in the great smelter in September. Mr. Paulsen inspects the brick stone at the quarry, four miles from Great Falls, and pronounces it most excellent for building purposes.—Herald.

The Races.

A fine track had been prepared a mile long on Seventh street, and about 2 p. m., a large crowd of people including many of the latter sex gathered on the north side. J. Horst's Bruno, Mr. Todd's Biddy, and Sparta entered for the trotting race, which Bruno was the victor. Selkirk, Daylight, Eattie and White Mark were entered for the quarter mile dash, Selkirk being the winner. Daylight won the half mile dash. "Whitcomb" came out conqueror in the foot race. A large crowd gathered at the boat houses and along the shores of the river in the evening. Whitcomb was the winner in the first race, defeating McKay, Pieper, Fry, Thurston and Robertson. Lyon and Sharp won the double scull.

Their Opinion.

What some of the leading republican business men of Great Falls say regarding the nomination at Chicago.

C. M. Webster: "I think the ticket will win."

A. R. Lapeyre: "It was a good nomination."

Emmet Race: "It was first-class. A good, clean, straight ticket."

J. J. Dow: "I would like to have seen Blaine nominated; but as it is, it is all right, and will beat them any way this fall."

F. W. Tuttle: "It meets with my approval."

William Beuchley: "I think Harrison will make a good president."

Mr. Worrecker: "I think it first-rate."

F. W. Webster: "It is pretty good. I am satisfied with it."

Mr. Downing: "I think it is all right,

and that they are the coming men. You bet.

Frank Wilcox: "I think we are going to carry the whole country."

There were a number of other prominent business men whom we desired to interview, but were unable to readily find them.

Generous Hospitality.

Formal votes of thanks, however hearty and unanimous, do not do justice to the unbounded hospitality shown the members of the Press Association on their recent visit to Great Falls. There was one continuous round of entertainment from the moment of arrival till the train left that bore away the last of the guests. Where all did so much and each vied with the other to do more, it would be almost invidious to mention names. The railroads, the livery stables, the hotels, boat houses, and every other public place were at the disposal of the guests. The Park Hotel was the headquarters, and there was room for all without interfering with regular business. If the case calls for any criticism, it would be that the hospitality was too generous for the business purposes of the Association. It was found almost impossible to get the members together to do the merest routine business or to keep them together long enough to adjourn. But for the timely rain on Friday that postponed some excursions it is possible that the necessary work would never have been done. The Montana Central authorities, and Col. Broadwater in particular, treated the excursionists with royal generosity, and would have done more but for the storms and washouts that cut out the intended excursion to Fort Assiniboine and to the coal mines.

On behalf of the fathers of the city and the citizens generally, Hon. Tim Collins tendered the members the freedom of the city, which, as generally understood is a formality, but in this case it was a literal fact. Every guest was looked after and all their wants not only supplied but anticipated.

The country around the Falls, so far as the eye could stretch was a scene of beauty. Nature was in holiday attire. We have thought that our own hills and valleys around Helena were unusually green this year, but they look barren in comparison with those that stretch in every direction from Great Falls. Our reputation as a desert country is ruined.

Personally and for the Herald office we want our vote of thanks to the good people of Great Falls specially noted and entered of perpetual record.—Helena Herald.

The Fireman's Ball.

The ball of the Pioneer Hook and Ladder Company at the Park Hotel Wednesday evening was largely attended. Prof. Race's orchestra furnished the music. About one hundred couple participated in the festive dance. A fine banquet was prepared and met the appreciation of all present. It was not until the hour of four o'clock Thursday morning that the festivities ceased. We are glad to hear that the fire company will realize a handsome

Anaconda's Army.

The Anaconda Company now employs over 1,800 men. The Water Company have 150, the brick yards have 200, the hotel have directly and indirectly another hundred, the other building projects about town employ 500 others, and the mines adjacent to town have 500 more, making altogether 3,350 men directly and indirectly connected with Anaconda immediately. Take the old average of five persons, which are supported by one workman, and we should have a population of nearly 6,000. Review.

GENERAL NEWS.

Col. May has gone to Maryland for good. He was an old timer.

Special railroad rates to the Methodist conference, July 12 to 18.

The Missoula grand jury was in session ten days.

The Ferris Mercantile company has begun business in the hardware line at Missoula.

Castle hosts of a cave 1,800 feet long. Jefferson county had three murders within a week recently.

The Southern says "Bozeman's Fourth of July will be a dandy."

The great actress, Jeffreys-Lewis, plays in Anaconda tonight.

Grand-jury will modify his home rule scheme.

Russia intends to build a strategic railway in the southwest.

Uncle Sam's Crop Bulletin.

WASHINGTON, June 30.—The signal service crop bulletin for the past week says the weather in grain regions in the northwest have been generally favorable to growing crops and the conditions improved in the upper Mississippi and Missouri valleys and Michigan, although heavy local rains in Missouri are reported to have injured the wheat and delayed harvesting. Excess of rain is reported from Arkansas, Louisiana and Mississippi which has been unfavorable to the crop. In the western portion of the cotton region less rain and clear weather would doubtless benefit the growing crop, while in the eastern portion the weather has been less favorable for all crops. In Ohio, Indiana and Connecticut, more rain is needed, while generally throughout the middle, Atlantic and New England states the weather has increased the crop conditions. Harvesting is in progress in Tennessee and Kentucky, where the weather conditions have been favorable for wheat and corn, but unfavorable for grass.

From the Capital.

HELENA, July 6.—[Special to the LEADER]—A small fire broke out Wednesday afternoon in a story-and-half building on Jackson street, back of Del Dick's saloon, used as a lodging house. The building was destroyed before the fire department got to work, but it was prevented from spreading.

Judge Higer took a party from Helena down to the Gate of the Mountains on the 4th in the steamer Rose.

Sand Coulee Coal.

The Helena Herald of July 2 contains the following able editorial from the pen of Judge Hedges who examined the Sand Coulee coal fields during the recent visit of the Montana Press association to this city:

Our readers have heard much of the Sand Coulee coal fields, not far from the city of Great Falls, and they know that the mine has built a considerable area of coal land and has done some work in opening the mines and has taken out considerable coal at one time. Then of a sudden the work ceased, and not a few concluded that either the mines had played out or that the coal was of such inferior quality that it was not worth mining. One of the principal purposes of our visit in connection with the Press Association excursion was to settle in our own minds the truth of the claims.

On Saturday night last a small party of us, including Addison Smith of Deer Lodge, Matt Alderson of Bozeman, J. D. Whelpley of Billings, and Railroad of Helena, under the able convoy of Mr. Robert Vaughn, well known to most of our readers, made the visit to the mines by carriage, the railroad being out of repair somewhat. The road was somewhat heavy from the recent rains, but when in fair condition it is an easy two hours drive from the city of Great Falls to the mines. Deceived by the name, we had expected to see and to traverse a sandy waste, but with the exception of a few acres close to the city, say no sand at all, but a fine valley, already occupied, and to some extent cultivated, and all capable of cultivation.

We first visited the Humphrey mine, which is owned by Messrs. Paris Gibson and Robert Vaughn. The situation is everything that can be desired for convenient working. The coulee divides in the upper portion. We took the left hand fork in going up, while the railroad goes up the right. It is not more than a mile or two from the mouth of the junction to the mouth of the mines on either fork, and a fine bottom at the point of division has just been bought for the site of a future mining city. The mine we first visited crops out of the bluff on the right hand and about one hundred and feet above the valley. Furnished with lamps we entered the unpretentious, or rather unpromising opening in the side of the bluffs under a ledge of sandstone. We were not at all prepared for what we saw, but as we advanced we found we could easily stand erect and in places could hardly touch the ceiling. It was good, honest, glistening coal above, beneath and on either hand. The coal vein seems to be nearly horizontal. There is but little water, and that could be drained off so as to make the works perfectly dry. This mine has not been opened or worked in scientific style, but it shows an honest face to the most inexperienced. It is all good merchantable coal and has stood the test in large and small quantities in various places and for various purposes. Ten tons taken to Butte and used in the smelter gave better results than the Rock Springs coal of Wyoming.

As one advances along the tunnel and goes from chamber to chamber seeing nothing but coal on every hand the impression grows upon the mind in such a way that it can never be effaced. Seeing and feeling create a belief that doubt cannot successfully assail.

The railroad company's works are upon the same vein and are opened by a straight tunnel 500 feet long with various side chambers. This work has been done in more scientific shape and shows inexhaustible supplies of an excellent quality of coal. Instead of being worked out and abandoned, the mines have only been partially prospected. But the prospect is one that settles beyond all doubt and question the sufficiency of the supply for years to come.

This coal field is a large one, covering thousands of acres. It is so situated that it can be easily worked.

We have paid \$12 a ton for Wyoming coal in Helena. A better article can be supplied from Sand Coulee for less than a third of that price.

Nothing that we have ever seen in Montana has ever given us so much faith in her great future as this visit to the coal fields. Great Falls, with its water power sufficient to run all the machinery in the country, may not need this coal for that purpose, but it shows the amplitude of the resources with which not only that city, but the whole territory is endowed. The possession of an abundant coal supply that can be cheaply worked, settles a great many things about our future. It more intimately effects our railroad interests. With cheap coal for fuel our railroad system will expand rapidly and rates for transportation will be proportionally cheaper. Smelters can be worked at home, and we shall not have to ship our ores out of the country.

Between our great water powers and our abundance of coal, Montana will become a great manufacturing state some time in the near future. Our wool will be made into cloth and blankets. Our iron, copper, lead and other useful metals will be worked at home and fashioned into all the articles of commerce that the wants of modern civilization demand. Our forests may disappear for use and in waste, but we shall never be forced to abandon the country or stop work for lack of fuel. This Sand Coulee supply is but one of many, but it is sufficient of itself and gives us greater confidence in all of them. Future explorations may disclose still larger veins of better coal below these veins already discovered. It certainly encourages future prospecting.

Our visit consumed the whole day, but we never spent a day with more satisfactory results. These mines are of scarcely less importance to Helena than to Great Falls.

The reason of the suspension of work on the coal mines was not at all on account of their failure, but in order to make preparations to work them more advantageously on a vast scale. This very week work is to be resumed, and before winter comes we shall have in our market all the coal we need to supply every demand, and, though our demands were increased a thousand fold, the supply will easily keep pace with them, and the price will decrease rather than advance.