

FROM THE BRIDGES

LIGHTNING STRIKES THE NORMAL SCHOOL.

The Resultant Damage Being About \$100—Prof. Mill's Return to the Bridges—Preparations for the Fair—Personnel and General Mention.

TWIN BRIDGES, Aug. 29.—[Special Correspondence.]—Sunday morning about eight o'clock, a small cloud hovered over our town and gave vent to its electrical storage by using the Normal building as a conductor. The stroke struck just back of the belfry tower near the deck. The lightning then followed the rafter to the west side of the entrance. Here it came in contact with a 2x6 studding which it cut off with apparent ease. It then passed down on the inside to the door at the west side of the second stair building. The door casing, transom, and all that was near were torn to shivers. A piece of the casing was thrown across the hall and driven through the wall. From the door, the lightning must have followed a studding to the ground although no signs remain to mark its course. Another branch came down to the chimney to the pipe holes in the rooms below. Here it divided. A part came through the chimney to the ceiling of the lower room, removed several yards of plaster, went through the wall at the first stair-landing and removed several yards more plaster. The other part left the chimney at the other opening and followed the pipe to the stove and floor. At the stove it again divided and part went through the floor in front of the stove, while the rest went to the rear of the stove and down. It was a terrible stroke. In several places the wood is scorched almost black, yet the building did not burn. It will cost about \$100 to repair the damage.

Mrs. E. L. Smith, of Virginia City, has the lease of the boarding hall at the fair grounds.

John Seyler left the first of the week for Fergus county to look after his stock interests. He says Jim runs the ranch while father is absent, but the boy's postage bills, etc., are reducing the net revenue.

T. A. Wickes is again in our midst. Frank Hobert and Chas. Cline are in Butte getting rid of their summer's wages. It is reported that they walked from here to Whitehall during the night. Why, we cannot say.

Miss Edith Mills and Miss Clara Thomas, of Sheridan, were visiting Mr. and Mrs. Birchard Monday and Tuesday.

Judge Showers and his stenographer passed through town Tuesday, en route for Boulder.

C. W. Birchard and son George, visited the Broadway mine and Silver Star early in the week.

Mr. Blinn, father of the boys who have been running the mill, came out from Chicago last week to see how affairs were running here.

Edwin Norris, the legal luminary of Beaverhead's metropolis, was in town Tuesday.

L. J. Hamilton, Butte City Attorney, passed through town Tuesday from Virginia City where he had legal business.

Rev. George Comfort attended the M. E. Conference at Helena last week.

We understand that Miss Kincaid, who has been one of the nurses at the Home, will resign her position on the 1st of September and, after the fair, will return east.

Mrs. Jas. M. Page and family, except Grandma and Miss Nellie, left Thursday for their new home in Helena. They have rented a furnished house and will leave their furniture at the "ranch." The two remaining will go in about a month.

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BILLINGS, MONT.

Prof. W. E. Mills is here and will remain during the Fair to aid the boys with their music. The band is drilling nightly and is prepared to furnish excellent music. Did it ever occur to you that other towns the size of this one that keep a number one band in existence are about as scarce as hen's teeth?

We omitted a pleasing feature in our Anti-Monopoly story (alias Whiskey Trust) last week. The lion of the hour finally concluded that he had finished his labors and started home. Some one had left a "bike" standing at the side of the walk. The Britain perched to trip upon the wheel of the "bike." Thinking he had collided with some of our fair sex, scraped the dust, limbered his vertebrae, and with the politeness of a Baron remarked, "Excuse me Ladies." Had it not been for those "hay-diggers" again, the episode would have gone unnoticed.

The Fair is the next great event. It commences Tuesday and continues four days. Teams and men have been busy for weeks putting things into shape. It will be by far the best fair ever given and if the weather is good, there will be throngs of people in town. Everybody should attend the Fair.

We notice in the report of the M. E. Conference at Helena, that Rev. S. A. Oliver is permitted to remain on this charge. This is pleasing news to our people. Among the Bishops appointments we notice also, "Geo. Comfort, Supt. State school for Orphans." Perhaps the Bishop did not know that this institution is under state control and not the church of his choice.

SHERIDAN SALAD.

Doings of the People of the Valley Town for the Past Week.

SHERIDAN, Aug. 29.—[Special Correspondence.]—Charles Walters went to the county seat this morning on business for the Elling Co.

Mrs. Dickey and daughter Ora from Rochester are visiting with Mrs. A. Cornforth.

The family of Frank Wright have moved into their Sheridan residence, and expect to make this place their home during the winter.

The pastor of the Methodist church, sent to Sheridan by the recent conference arrived here on Wednesday's coach. He will occupy the M. E. pulpit Sunday morning and evening.

The people of Sheridan are anxiously awaiting the completion of the telephone line, that they may hear the voices of their Virginia City friends more frequently.

Mrs. Pony Gilbert and little daughter, of Butte, have been the guest of Mrs. Thomas Graham the past week. The two ladies left for Dillon this morning on a brief visit.

Edwin Norris passed through Sheridan Sunday, en route to Virginia City on legal business.

It is with pleasure the people of Sheridan have heard of the return of Rev. Oliver to his charge at Twin Bridges. He will be among us more often than if he had been stationed at a more remote point.

Fred Ellinghouse was made happy by an unexpected visit from his mother who lives in Iowa. Other relatives of the family also arrived on the same day and were met in Dillon by Mr. Ellinghouse.

THE SILVER FUND.

"Coin's School" Sends a Few Words of Greeting to Montana.

Butte, Aug. 26.—The following letter received to-day from the author of "Coin's Financial School" is self-explanatory:

"Chicago, Ill., Aug. 23, 1895. Dear Mr. Merrill: I am just in receipt of a letter from Mr. Light of Denver, saying that he hopes soon to be here in the interest of the campaign for silver and that he is waiting to hear from you in Montana. Now is the critical time in the present struggle. The gold men are making a quiet but aggressive campaign against us; their work is absolutely enormous. We are holding our own with them, but a time in the battle will soon come when one or the other will make inroads that will be decisive. If you can get Montana at your back and organize, it may be decisive in the impending campaign. I will be pleased to hear from you. Sincerely, W. H. Harvey."

Further evidence of what Colorado is doing toward raising a silver campaign fund is the following telegram received to-day from Senator Wolcott:

"Denver, Colo., Aug. 25, 1895. Hon. Thomas G. Merrill, Butte Hotel, Butte, Montana: Colorado's fifteen thousand pledged, one-half will be deposited Monday; balance when needed. Chicago office should be opened at once. H. E. Wolcott."

The request is made by the Butte soliciting committee that those who have subscribed should at once pay their subscription to W. A. Clark, the treasurer, so that the money could be forwarded as soon as possible.—Standard.

BOSS TWEED SALE

ACCORDING TO THE BUTTE PAPERS.

The Clipper Group Said to Have Been Sold to English Capitalist for \$350,000—Other Properties Included in the Sale.

A mammoth mining deal is on in Madison county properties and the fact that a large payment has been made to secure it leads to the belief that it will be consummated in a few days. The properties included in the negotiations are the Clipper group of mines near Pony, owned by Elling & Morris, the wealthy Madison county men, and the mining interests adjoining this group, which are owned by H. C. McKaska. The consideration is \$350,000, of which a goodly sum has already been paid.

According to mining men who are well posted in that section, the Clipper group and adjoining claims are much more valuable than mines at Merced, California, recently secured by Captain Couch. In fact, the latter had an expert report on the Clipper group before the California mines were purchased, and an offer of \$250,000 was made. Elling & Morris held the property then at \$600,000, and as a great deal of development work would have to be done Captain Couch completed the negotiations for the California properties.

Since that time a force of men has been constantly employed in opening up the ground. The mine was worked during the winter months and the ore stacked up until the summer, when it was hauled to Elling's mill about five miles distant. The fact that a mill cannot be erected at the mine is the discouraging feature in working the properties. The English capitalists who are now negotiating for the mines must be prepared to expend a very large amount of capital in getting things in shape. It is understood they will proceed to erect a 100 stamp mill about three quarters of a mile from the Clipper group and will construct a tramway similar to the one at the Bimetallic mines in Granite county.

"The capitalists who are negotiating for the Clipper group will have a bigger and better thing than the Merced properties," said a Madison county mining man to-day. "The ore around Pony is in permanent ledges and not in pockets as in many other parts of that county. It will require the expenditure of a large amount of capital to get the mines in working order, but once started there will be ore enough there to keep a 100 stamp mill running night and day for 50 years."

The agent of the capitalists has deposited \$75,000 in a bank of this city as a guarantee that the bond will be lifted.—Inter Mountain.

FROM RICHMOND FLAT.

Some Mining News and Some Personal Happenings.

RICHMOND FLAT, Aug. 26.—[Special Correspondence.]—Not seeing anything in print for some time from this camp, we thought it about time to advise you that Richmond Flat is strictly in it. But we don't make any extensive blow over it for the ore shipments to Butte tell the story of the richness of our ores. At the Monitor ten men are on the pay roll. The shaft is now down over 200 feet, the vein being 50 feet wide with streaks of good ore scattered through it. Supt. J. K. Knox, it appears, is going down into the east to satisfy himself that the ores here did not fall from the clouds. At the Revenue 16 men are employed. The mill is now running on half time but the ore extracted is away up and is paying well.

At the Columbus 4 men are employed and they ship a car load of ore every two weeks. The mine is looking well. This property is owned principally by Boston parties.

The Shamrock mine shut down last week for a brief season. Supt. Turner did not want to throw too much gold bullion on the market at one time for fear that the stuffed prophet at Washington would demonize gold and 'bust' up his company, therefore he will let gold get a little scarce before he resumes operations.

Mr. Baker, who has a lease on a mine near Sterling, recently shipped 4 tons which paid one hundred and ten dollars per ton. Mr. Baker may engage in banking business if the streak holds out.

Ed Johnson made the first payment on the Rosebud property at Sterling, therefore Goodwin & Company, the former owners, are happy as ground hogs

in the spring, sitting on a boulder sunning themselves. By the way Mr. Johnson is talking smelter and says that he will have one of twenty-five ton capacity at Sterling sunning before the grass gets green in the spring.

At Bald Mountain, at the head of Meadow Creek, things are looking up. The California consolidated Mining Company is working eight men on their mine. They say it is showing up splendidly and will make a good mine. Frank Wallace, late manager of the mine, recently resigned. Mr. Wallace says that he has one consolation, that during his administration he paid up lots of old bills against the Company, so the new manager, Mr. Casey, has a clean set of books to commence business with. It is announced that this Company will put up a mill near the mine this fall.

At the Little Kid mine, several men are employed. Mr. McKeney, the manager, let a contract last week for several hundred cord of wood to be delivered at the mine. This company intend to build a mill also this fall.

L. A. Dunham, manager of the Revenue, returned from Butte Thursday.

Edward Johnson went to Tacoma, Washington, Saturday but will return in about fifteen days.

Chas. Miner is refitting the Slippery Bill Hotel on the flat in great shape. Its doors will be thrown open to the public on Sept. 1. Mr. Miner being an old hotel man will no doubt have a big crowd to feed on the opening day. Mrs. P. V. Jackson, of Sterling, Sunday with her sister Mrs. Ormslin, on Meadow Creek.

Pat McCleary, who has had charge of the windlass at the Columbus mine, resigned Saturday.

The wet goods store on the flat is not doing a rushing business at present. The manager, William Mears, announces that water will be pretty good for the boys in about 10 days if business don't loom up.

Jake Newman, the tailor.

The National G. A. R. encampment will be held this year in Louisville, Kentucky. For this occasion, the Union Pacific will sell round trip ticket for one fare. Tickets will be on sale September 4th, and will be limited for return, until October 6th.

LOST—Two horses; one light bay horse, branded L on left thigh; one iron grey branded W on left shoulder; have been gone about three months; a suitable reward will be given for information leading to their recovery. Address Geo. D. B. Turner, Norris, Montana.

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