

The Volunteer

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From Nevada Gold Mines.
CARSON CITY, NEVADA TERRITORY,
December 21st, 1863.
JAMES H. PERRY.

Dear Sir—Mindful of a promise I made you about the time I left Minnesota, that I would send you a letter after I arrived in Nevada, and with the hope that I may interest some of the readers of your paper, I will give you some thoughts and facts relating to this surprising and in some respects wonderful part of our country—I had intended to give some incidents of my tedious and tiresome journey over the Rocky Mountains, my stay at Salt Lake City, and my trip from that place over the Alkali Desert, but my time was so occupied that I didn't find it convenient. I first stopped at Austin, in Lander Co. located in a long narrow canon with high mountains on each side of it, with one narrow street intersected by two or three streets now opened, containing a few good buildings and about 3000 inhabitants, the growth of the past season. It is strictly a mining town, and is what is known there as the Reese River Mining District. I remained there but one day, and then went to Virginia located high up on the mountains in Storey county, and in the centre of another vast mining District. I found here a flourishing city of about 17,000 inhabitants, and on the sides of the mountain upon which it is located could see a vast number of oes and tunnels from which was being extracted the ore which was to be carried to the Stamps Mills for crushing. I am not able to tell you exactly how many of these mills are in and around Virginia, but don't think I will err much when I say 35, erected at a cost ranging from \$3,000 to \$50,000. The streets were pretty well filled with 6, 8 and 10 mule teams, with very large wagons, drawing the quartz to the mills and returning again to the lodes. I only remained here one day, and then went over to Washoe City, a flourishing little town of about 1000 inhabitants. Here too I found several quartz mills and one belonging to Judge North, formerly of Minnesota, and now one of the U. S. District Judges for the Territory. I was much interested in passing through it and examining the several processes of crushing, grinding, separating and finally producing the bars of pure silver, from the 3d class rock of the Gould & Curry claim which was here being worked profitably for half the result and yielding about sixty dollars to the ton of ore. I remained here but one day, and then came to Carson City, the capital of the Territory. It is located in Carson Valley in Ormsby county and contains about 2000 inhabitants. The Constitutional convention was in session when I arrived here. It has since adjourned having prepared and submitted to the voters of the Territory a constitution upon which it is proposed to ask admission into our union of States. It contains but one provision that seems to be particularly objectionable and that relates to the taxation of the mines, and all the opposition to it arises from this section. At the time the vote is taken on the Constitution, the members of Congress, the Judges of the Supreme and District Courts, the members of the Legislature and the State officers will be elected. The press of the State announces among the candidates for office J. W. North for Governor, and J. W. Nye, the present Governor for one of the U. S. Senators. I have seen here individuals of two tribes of Indians that are inhabiting this Territory the Putes and the Washoes. They are now friendly with each other, and whites, but are so numerous that fears are sometimes entertained for their future relations. If I can judge from what I have seen or heard of Governor Nye's treatment of them, and their feeling for him I apprehend there is but little danger of an outbreak. Since I left Salt Lake City I have not seen any snow except upon the summit of some peaks of the mountains, and the weather has been mild and pleasant, very much like our Indian Summer. I imagine very different from what you are having in Minnesota.

The Third Regiment Re-enlisting.
We have been shown a letter from Lt. Gustafson of the Third Regiment, to Lt. Col. Mattson, dated on the 8th inst., stating that up to that time three hundred and eighty three have re-enlisted as veterans from that regiment. There are only about four hundred and eighty men now present with the regiment, so that about three-fourths of the available force of the regiment have already re-enlisted.

Cot. Mattson informs us that from other accounts he has received, he thinks at least seven eighths of the regiment has by this time re-enlisted.

The letter is dated at Little Rock, Ark. where the regiment has been and is now stationed. It says the regiment will return home on furlough in about thirty days, that is by the 8th of February.

It says the weather is very cold and that pedestrians are crossing the river on ice. Who ever heard of such a thing before? We in Minnesota are not the only ones who feel the cold. The fleet is twelve miles below the City, unable to get up on account of ice.

But the best of all is contained in the information it brings of the Union sentiment of that State. A Convention was in session in Little Rock at the date of that letter, for the purpose of bringing the State back into the Union. Thirty counties were represented, and the letter says "a resolution that the State shall enter into the Union without slavery, passed to-day without opposition."

Good enough! let the Union ball roll on, and the good time coming, about which we often sing, will speedily be here.

Temperance Meeting.

Last Saturday evening the friends of temperance in this city—ladies and gentlemen—met at the Court House. It was announced through the papers that the meeting was to organize a temperance society, yet from conversation with many, we were led to believe that the principal object was to discuss the best means of suppressing the growing and almost appalling evil of intemperance. Much to our disappointment the published design was adhered to, and the preliminary steps taken to perfect an organization to be known as the Red Wing Temperance Union. Next Friday evening there will be another meeting, when it is hoped the organization will be perfected with as little delay as possible, and the society go to work in earnest to discuss THE BEST MEANS OF SUPPRESSING INTEMPERANCE IN OUR CITY. The vice is growing upon us. Old men, young men, and even boys are going to ruin, and dragging all withing the reach of their influence along with them. Something ought to be done at once.

We were not, and now are not, in favor of forming a society. We have known that to be tried, succeed for a little time and then die out, so often, that we have lost confidence in them to a great extent. This is a matter that interests the public—in which every right minded and sober person in the body politic has an interest; and we wanted to see the work accomplished, by awaking the public mind to the necessity of it, and letting every good citizen have an interest in the matter, create, if need be, a public sentiment that will frown upon the seller and the drinker of intoxicating drink. Too frequently it is the case that when those matters that it is the duty of every good citizen to make his own business, are taken in hand by a society, the outside public shuffle their responsibility off on the society, the society on their committees, and after a little the meetings of the society grow less frequent, and the evil goes on as if nothing had been done.

We think by judicious management, the feeling now abroad in this community on the subject of temperance might be kindled into a flame of reform. Our method would be to hold public meetings, use personal efforts, exhort the inebriate to assert his manhood over himself, persuade the dealer to abandon his trade, if possible. To aid this we would call in the law; and when men would not listen to reason, humanity, mercy, we would appeal to their pockets and their persons, through the strong arm of the law. If selling liquor is dangerous to the peace and safety of the public, the public have the power to protect themselves, and it should be done. We think the work would be a much more permanent one when taken in hand by the public, and every person made to feel that he or she, individually had an interest in the matter, than when left in the hands of a society.

But our citizens have thought otherwise, and we are not going to be factions; we want to see good accomplished, and care not so much what means employed as if we can in any way advance the cause, or help in even the smallest degree to do so, we shall cheerfully do so, and the columns of our paper is always open for that object.

From Nevada Gold Mines.
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December 21st, 1863.
JAMES H. PERRY.

Dear Sir—Mindful of a promise I made you about the time I left Minnesota, that I would send you a letter after I arrived in Nevada, and with the hope that I may interest some of the readers of your paper, I will give you some thoughts and facts relating to this surprising and in some respects wonderful part of our country—I had intended to give some incidents of my tedious and tiresome journey over the Rocky Mountains, my stay at Salt Lake City, and my trip from that place over the Alkali Desert, but my time was so occupied that I didn't find it convenient. I first stopped at Austin, in Lander Co. located in a long narrow canon with high mountains on each side of it, with one narrow street intersected by two or three streets now opened, containing a few good buildings and about 3000 inhabitants, the growth of the past season. It is strictly a mining town, and is what is known there as the Reese River Mining District. I remained there but one day, and then went to Virginia located high up on the mountains in Storey county, and in the centre of another vast mining District. I found here a flourishing city of about 17,000 inhabitants, and on the sides of the mountain upon which it is located could see a vast number of oes and tunnels from which was being extracted the ore which was to be carried to the Stamps Mills for crushing. I am not able to tell you exactly how many of these mills are in and around Virginia, but don't think I will err much when I say 35, erected at a cost ranging from \$3,000 to \$50,000. The streets were pretty well filled with 6, 8 and 10 mule teams, with very large wagons, drawing the quartz to the mills and returning again to the lodes. I only remained here one day, and then went over to Washoe City, a flourishing little town of about 1000 inhabitants. Here too I found several quartz mills and one belonging to Judge North, formerly of Minnesota, and now one of the U. S. District Judges for the Territory. I was much interested in passing through it and examining the several processes of crushing, grinding, separating and finally producing the bars of pure silver, from the 3d class rock of the Gould & Curry claim which was here being worked profitably for half the result and yielding about sixty dollars to the ton of ore. I remained here but one day, and then came to Carson City, the capital of the Territory. It is located in Carson Valley in Ormsby county and contains about 2000 inhabitants. The Constitutional convention was in session when I arrived here. It has since adjourned having prepared and submitted to the voters of the Territory a constitution upon which it is proposed to ask admission into our union of States. It contains but one provision that seems to be particularly objectionable and that relates to the taxation of the mines, and all the opposition to it arises from this section. At the time the vote is taken on the Constitution, the members of Congress, the Judges of the Supreme and District Courts, the members of the Legislature and the State officers will be elected. The press of the State announces among the candidates for office J. W. North for Governor, and J. W. Nye, the present Governor for one of the U. S. Senators. I have seen here individuals of two tribes of Indians that are inhabiting this Territory the Putes and the Washoes. They are now friendly with each other, and whites, but are so numerous that fears are sometimes entertained for their future relations. If I can judge from what I have seen or heard of Governor Nye's treatment of them, and their feeling for him I apprehend there is but little danger of an outbreak. Since I left Salt Lake City I have not seen any snow except upon the summit of some peaks of the mountains, and the weather has been mild and pleasant, very much like our Indian Summer. I imagine very different from what you are having in Minnesota.

From the time I left Atchison until I arrived at Salt Lake City and in that place I heard much of the direction of emigration in the spring, being as I thought about equally divided between Bannock and Reese River but west of Salt Lake City, and west of Austin, to include Virginia, Washoe, and Carson, and in fact from the whole district between here and San Francisco, there is no doubt but a great emigration will move to waste Reese River variously estimated, but I don't believe it will be less than ten thousand persons, and many intelligent men estimate at not less than thirty thousand. There are already there and in that vicinity several mining districts, in each of which there are from twenty to seventy-five locations already made, some of which have already proved worthless while many are said to be as rich and as large as any yet found in the Territory, and I have no doubt but many now are to be found, for it is evident that the hills and mountains abound in it above estimate.

The mining companies here are almost without number, and you can scarcely find a man but is talking of his number of feet in this or that particular company of locations, and I can scarcely look at a paper, (and almost every town supports at least one) but has one or two pages filled with stock mining notices of meeting of stock holders to elect trustees, of a levy of assessments upon each share or foot, usually

from five cents to a dollar, "payable in gold or silver coin, at some designated place, or of a sale to be made of the shares or feet of some of the delinquents, (I will send you a paper) and as soon as a town has attained any considerable size it must have its board of Brokers, who daily publish the standing of the companies, which varies from 25 cents to 4500 dollars per foot. In coming from Washoe City to Carson City I stopped at the Ophir works; their mines is several miles distant and from one of the superintendents I was informed among other things, that the Ophir Company had 140 feet on their ledge, that in their mine and in their works they had about 400 men employed, that their mine yielded four different classes of rock, ranging from \$40, to \$50, and \$1000 to the ton. That their mill had seventy-two stamps and was running constantly day and night, and Sunday as well as week day. The last monthly dividend to the stock holders was sixty dollars per foot. The stock is now held and selling for fifteen thousand dollars per foot. I was also informed in the same office that the chief superintendent is receiving an annual salary of thirty-five thousand dollars in gold. The Spanish mining company have fifty feet adjoining the Ophir mine, and have works including a fine mill at Empire City, about ten miles from their mine. I am told that the owners of the mine refuse to sell at any price, but that last summer a few feet was bought at nineteen thousand dollars per foot. The Gould & Curry company have I think 1200 feet near to the Ophir mine and have the finest mill in the Territory. One of the Virginia papers noticed a few days ago that in one week it yielded \$240,000. It has as I am informed three classes of rock, the third class yielding from forty five to sixty dollars to the ton, which is let out to transient or adjoining mills on the half of the proceeds, the second class from sixty to two hundred and fifty and three hundred dollars, which is worked at their own mill, and the first class from two hundred and fifty and three hundred dollars, upwards, which I am informed is so rich that it pays them to freight it to California and ship to England, for crushing. The stock of this company commands \$4500 per foot, either in Virginia or San Francisco. I have alluded particularly to these companies but others are paying well and are valued at very high figures. I sometimes pause and in my own mind wonder what must be the future of Nevada when prices come down to a level with other portions of our country, and it seems as if it would indeed be wonderful, beyond present conception. There are some agriculture and timbered lands here, but on the Sierra Nevada and on some of the hills and mountains near here the latter is quite heavy, and in some of the valleys the former may be found, yet the whole Territory is truly barren, and but for the mineral that seems so abundant would never be inhabited. With respect I remain, Yours Truly,

J. H. PERRY.

NO MORE CREDIT.

At a meeting of the Merchants of Red Wing, held at the Metropolitan Hotel in said City on Saturday Evening January 16 1864.

Meeting organized by the election of Chas. McGlashan chairman and Chas. Kempe, Sec.

On motion the following resolution was introduced for discussion:

Resolved, that we consider it for the interest of both the Merchants and consumers that the Credit system should be abolished. Which resolution after a somewhat animated discussion was withdrawn, and on motion a committee of three were appointed to draft resolutions embodying the views of the Merchants in regard to the Credit System, and report the same at an adjourned meeting.

Committees appointed—Messrs. Marvin Foot and Simmons.

On motion adjourned to meet again on Wednesday Evening next, at 7 o'clock P. M.

Chas. McGlashan, Chairman.

Chas. Kempe, Sec.

WEDNESDAY EVE, Jan. 20, 1864.

The Red Wing Merchants met at the Metropolitan Hotel pursuant to adjournment—Charles McGlashan in the chair.

On motion Charles Wilson was chosen Secretary pro tem in absence of Chas. Kempe Secretary.

The Committee on Resolutions made the following report,

WHEREAS, The interests of the Merchants about us demand a change in their mode of Business, and it is equally as important with their customers that a change should be made in dealing with merchants so far as the credit system is concerned, for the reason that debts contracted either by the merchants or consumer at the present high prices of both Merchandise and Produce must inevitably, when a reaction takes place in prices, place the Merchant and consumer in equally ruinous position.

Now with a view to avoid as well on the part of the Merchant as the Consumer, as far as possible the ruinous results of the credit system by enabling the Merchant to purchase his goods at lower prices, and conduct his business with much less expense, and the enabling him to sell his goods at less profit, thereby giving to the consumer that benefit, and with them avoiding all disastrous results of the Financial Storm which must sooner or later overtake us.

Therefore, be it resolved, by the Merchants of Red Wing, that on and after the first day of February 1864, we will sell goods for "Ready Pay" only, except to Merchants who buy to resell, and Manufacturers or Mechanics to work up we, will extend a credit not exceeding 30 days, provided however that all existing contracts shall be duly respected.

On motion the report of the committee was, after a somewhat lengthy debate, adopted.

On motion the committee was granted full power to call a meeting at anytime they may deem it necessary.

Moreover that a meeting be held at the Metropolitan, on Monday Evening next for the purpose of organizing a Mercantile association or Board of trade in this City.

On motion the City papers are requested to publish the proceedings of the meeting. Chas. McGlashan, Chairman.

Chas. Wilson, Sec. pro tem.

Arrival of the Second Minnesota Infantry.

Early this morning the 2d regiment Minnesota volunteer infantry, or rather the remains of it, arrived in Chicago from Chattanooga and Louisville, via the Michigan Central and New Albany and Louisville Railroads. The regiment took breakfast at the Soldiers' Home, and marched, headed by its band, to the Chicago and Northwestern Railway, by which route it left for home.

When the 2d Minnesota regiment marched through Chicago in June, 1861, a splendid body of well drilled men, to the number of ten hundred and eighty, adorned and applauded by thousands of our citizens who lined the sidewalks and cheered them on their way, it was a matter of remark that their tough, muscular, sun burnt men would fight well and would make their mark in Dixie. Minnesota was a new State, people by adventurous, enterprising and hardy men from the Eastern States, and her regiments would therefore be composed of the very best of material.

The prediction has not failed. The gallant boys have indeed made their mark in Dixie. The first battle that they were engaged in—Mill Springs—brought out their fighting qualities, and tested their obstinate and steady courage. Posted behind a fence, the gallant 2d Minnesota repulsed three successive charges of the Louisiana Tigers, a crack rebel brigade, and with its unerring and deadly fire, mowed them down by hundreds. The "Tigers" charged fiercely up to the fence, through the shot of the men and the leaden storm, trampling upon the bodies of their fallen comrades, and actually attacked the 2d with their long knives. Colonel George gave the order to charge bayonets, and the 2d springing to execute the order, in a few moments convinced the rebels that knives were no match for bayonets, and almost decimated the "Tigers".

From that time, clear down to the storming of Missionary Ridge, the 2d Minnesota has borne a prominent and proud part in all of the great sanguinary struggles of the Army of the Cumberland. Of the ten hundred and eighty gallant hearts that marched through Chicago battle ward, but two hundred and ninety survive their steps home. Six hundred of our brave hearts as ever thrubbed beneath jackets of blue, are under the soil of rebellion. Sad and eloquent proofs of unyielding love of country and unconquerable courage. If another proof is needed—if any additional record of patriotism and bravery is required, or if there be a single thing lacking to complete the proud and glorious monument of their fame—it is within reach, and, with feelings of admiration amounting to homage, we place the cap stone in its place. It is this:

Every man of them, mining two hundred and ninety is re-located for the war!

We can neither describe our own nor the feelings of those hundreds of our fellow citizens who looked upon the broken and shattered column as it marched through Randolph, Clark, and Lake streets, this morning. Thoughts of the past and present of that gallant regiment chased each other rapidly. Words are powerless when the heart is full. Suffice it to say that tears sprang to the eyes and rolled down the cheeks of strong men, this morning, when the regimental flag, glorious in its battle scarred tatters, waved silently over the heads of that little handful of veterans who had defended it.—Chicago Journal.

Telegraphic News.

New York, Jan. 18.

Richmond papers report the passage by Congress of a bill to conscript all men who have hitherto furnished substitutes. This will curtail the working of railroads.

The Enquirer says that all Virginia railroad iron is worn out, and so are the men working them.

The Enquirer says that there is no prospect of any considerable crop this year in several of the fertile counties of southwest Virginia. In view of the foregoing named law, farmers have hired their field hands to manufacturing companies, or sent them to cities and towns for employment. No corn will be raised, and but little oats or wheat, which will barely suffice for home consumption.

The conscription of all soldiers, in the Rebel armies, whose term shortly expires, is urged in a memorial to the Rebel Congress by Gen. Hardee, Cetham, Breckinridge and others.

The Richmond Whig of the 15th, thinks the future of the South is involved in the next Spring's campaign, in Upper Georgia.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 19.

Immense deposits of lead, believed to be impregnated with gold and silver, had been discovered near Albuquerque, New Mexico.

NEW YORK, Jan. 20.

New Orleans dates contain the following: Gen Banks has issued proclamation for a State election for Governor, &c. On the 22d of February Major-General Reynolds resumed command of the Defenses of New Orleans.

The occupation of the Indians unopposed by the rebels, is confirmed.

The town of Madisonville, Louisiana, on the north side of Lake Pontchartrain, had been captured without resistance, and also Jacksonville, by our forces.

The 8th of January was observed at New Orleans by a salute at Meridian by order of General Banks. A great Union mass meeting was held the same evening.

In his order for a State election, Banks is fully assured that more than a tenth of the population desire the earliest possible restoration of Louisiana to the Union. He declares so much of the constitution and laws of the State, as recognize regulate and are relative to slavery being inconsistent with the present condition of public affairs, and plainly inapplicable to any class of person now existing within its limits, are in-operative and void.

NEW ADVERTISEMENTS.

NEW

Boot & Shoe Store.

SIMONS & BLINN

WOULD respectfully inform the citizens of Red Wing and the country round about, that we have opened our door west of the Goodhue County Drug Store, on Main Street, a large and well selected stock of

BOOTS & SHOES,

which we will sell as low as the times will admit. Our stock embraces all the latest styles of

Mens fine thick and Prairie Boots, Womens long Gaiters, Balmores, Calif. Buff Goat, and Pebbled Calf and Goat Shoes.

Misses same styles, Childrens Shoes with and without copper tip.

Slippers, Mens, Womens, Misses and Childrens, and last, though not least, the famous

ARCTIC OVERSHOE,

which are concealed by all who wear them to be just the article to keep the feet warm in cold weather and dry in wet weather.

Give us a call before you purchase elsewhere, as we charge nothing for showing our goods.

Red Wing January 27th 1864.

H. A. SIMONS. W. M. C. BLINN.

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THE CHICAGO EVENING JOURNAL

FOR 1864.

Daily, Tri-Weekly and Weekly.

Since our last yearly announcement, THE EVENING JOURNAL, in all its editions, has largely increased its circulation and undergone great improvement.

It has kept on "in the even tenor of its ways," supporting the cause of the country and of the Government with all the zeal and earnestness in its power.