

THE DUPUYER ACANTHA.

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The special correspondent of the Helena Independent at Washington says, in speaking of the treaty with the Blackfoot Indians: "It is provided that the price to be paid shall be \$2 per acre, but it declares that the land shall not be open for settlement except under the mineral laws of the United States. It is not possible that all this land is mineral and no doubt a very large portion of the land will never be taken. Here is where the worst feature of the bill appears. The Indians are allowed to go upon the ceded portion of the reservation as long as the lands remain public lands and are taken for mineral purposes, and they cut and remove wood and timber for all purposes, hunt upon the lands, fish the streams, and in fact have a general roving permit to leave their reservation and circulate among the people who may take the lands in different localities and make general nuisances of themselves. It is safe to say that congress will greatly modify this treaty before it becomes law. It is possible under a rule adopted by one congress to modify a treaty made by law and not go through the formality of submitting it again to the Indians. This has been done in the case of the Colville reservation in Washington. If the president will approve it can be done in regard to the Blackfoot reservation in Montana. But it is no sure thing that he will approve. The treaty as framed will be far from satisfactory to the people of Montana. The commission say in their report that the land to be ceded is wholly unfit for anything except mineral and grazing purposes. It is another case of where Indians have land worthless to themselves and want the government to purchase it at a high price in order that the whites may make it valuable.

Life may be laughed at but death is no joke. Edgar Wilson Nye has found that out. Last Saturday he handed in his life's copy to the great Editor for approval. Thousands have spent many pleasant half hours with the humorist, forgetting for the time the stern realities and dull cares of life. He has a monument in the memories of many who have often looked anxiously for the light-hearted sketches of Bill Nye. His friends were many, his enemies but few, for who could dislike the man who took the worst trials of life as huge jokes?

Our correspondent at Choteau says: Work on the new school house has been going on at a lively rate in the newspapers for the past two weeks. The correspondent does not know where the blame lies but he believes that things have progressed far enough to show conclusively that the present board has not business enough about them to erect a new school house. They have made a miserable botch of the whole affair and if they had the welfare of the people of school district No. 1 at heart they would resign. They have done mischief enough.

Blackfoot.
James Whitus has inherited a fortune. No more laundry work for Jimmy.
Mrs. H. E. Hinkle is reported to be seriously ill at her home at St. Mary's lake.
It is said that the thermometer registered 54 degrees in the shade on Feb. 19th.
A. E. Allison was in town Wednesday and returned to Rocky Coulee the following day.

The present indications point toward a great deal of ditching and fencing being done the coming summer.
The people are anxiously awaiting tidings of the action of congress in the matter of the treaty made last fall.
The well-wishers of W. S. Brown are glad to see him reinstated in his old position of boiler maker at the round house.
For all that the winter has been so mild, hay is scarce and the price paid to sellers good. Many are holding their unfed stacks in anticipation of coming needs.
E. J. Devereaux is wearing a broad smile these days over the arrival of a son at his home at Cut Bank on Sunday last. This pair, aged 63 and 53 respectively, don't propose to let this end of Teton county suffer for lack of representation when sturdy sons are required in the future.

William Jackson will go to New York city in March to attend the Sportsmen's convention to be held there. He will represent Forest and Stream as a noted guide for hunters and tourists, and will take along a fine collection of mounted game heads, furs, etc. for that excellent journal's exhibit.
Who ever saw a February like this, grass growing, streams roaring. Wild ducks on Cut Bank and cattle standing in the water to get away from heel flies. A bachelor was seen the other day doing his washing outdoors in the shadow of the house, bareheaded and barefooted, sleeves reefed up to his elbows and face awash with sweat.

Charlie Carter caught a big wolf several coyotes, four foxes and two dogs in his traps in a week's time, and still he says there is nothing in it. He, moreover, avers that when wolves have arrived at such a stage that they can safely eat and digest drop baits that contain a dozen drops of prussic acid, and then wait all the next day for more such tid-bits, it is time to quit.
Dan Blevens, of Fort Benton, is visiting at John Galbreath's. Dan McCullom hauls hay to Kipp's ranch. Dan Hagerty says the Piegiens now argue the point when credit is refused. Dan Anderson has nearly recovered from his recent accident. Dan Fitzpatrick thinks that red is the only color suitable for a lady's dress. Dan —, but all the rest of our Dans are away from home.

A train on the Great Northern recently struck a bunch of cattle near Carbon siding and killed 15 head. The roadbed from Willow creek grade to Carbon section house runs through a wide, level valley and is as straight as an arrow. There are no cuts or sheltering points for stock to get behind, and yet on such a piece of track, where there is an unobstructed view for nearly six miles, these cattle were slaughtered, and the owners can await the pleasure of the railway company to receive any pay for their property.

An entertainment was given at the home of A. B. Coe on Friday evening, Feb. 21st, for the benefit of Billy Brown, who unfortunately lost his leg two years ago. A large number of friends attended and enjoyed themselves as well as the crowded state of the rooms would permit. Every available foot of space was occupied and many could not find standing room in the house. At 11 o'clock 31 couples partook of the supper provided by the host, assisted by the ladies of Blackfoot and vicinity, and to which all did ample justice. The evening was very pleasantly spent listening to songs and recitations and in dancing. The financial result was gratifying.

Several men who have for some time made their head quarters at this place were recently invited by Major Steel to attend a social at his office at the Agency. Unlike many gatherings, this entertainment did not continue until a late hour, but as a result there was "hurryyng to and fro" in order to obey the major's mandate of, "stand not upon the order of your going, but go at once!" And they went via the Great Northern.

During the last severe spell of weather, in January, a portion of the range cattle bearing the F and 22 brands drifted from their accustomed range on this reservation to Birch creek. The foreman of that outfit, who for some months prior had been located in winter quarters on the upper end of Cobell's flat, is now at Robare looking after estrays. It is said that feed, especially oats, is much cheaper there than at any place in this vicinity, notwithstanding that we have connection by rail with the agricultural land of Flathead county.

Sheep that Require no Water.
Mr. O. G. Cooper, one of the pioneers in the sheep business, and one of the largest owners in the state, has the nucleus of what will probably be in a few years the most valuable strain in the country for breeding purposes. The strain possesses qualities that will strongly recommend them to breeders in a country like this, where an abundance of succulent grasses can be had at a distance from the water supply. This peculiar acquisition to our flocks originated as follows:

Some eight years ago about six weeks after the close of the season of fecundation Mr. Cooper moved a band of ewes from his Done Yard ranch to another location. The night before the removal a shropshire ewe was imprisoned in a building, the door of which was closed during the night by a violent wind. The herder started the band at break of day, neglecting to examine the stable before his departure. In one end of the stable was stored a quantity of hay, but there was not a drop of water with which the ewe could quench her thirst. Three weeks later the ewe was relieved from her prison and placed in the band. In due time she gave birth to twins, a male and a female, both peculiarly marked about the head, as was the mother, with small, round spots.

In the fall, when the lambs were separated from their mothers for weaning the herder noticed that these two peculiarly marked lambs never drank water, but remained several rods away from the creek while their companions were drinking.
Mr. Cooper's attention was called to these two lambs and, with commendable forethought, immediately gave directions that they be given extra care and, as a result of eight years effort he has now twelve head of sheep, not one of which is known to have swallowed a drop of water.

Of the wonderful characteristics communicated to the young in embryo, this is one of the most wonderful and no doubt that it will turn out to be one of the most valuable. No man can estimate the wealth these non-aqueous sheep will afford when they have multiplied enough to stock the almost boundless dry bench lands of Montana.

Advertised Letters.
Letters addressed to the following persons remain uncalled for at the Dupuyer postoffice. When asking for any of these please say, "advertised."
John Caplette, 3.
Chuck Cameron.
Wellington Del Chestnut.
A. L. White, 5.
H. Cline.
William Hudson.
Miss Kate Hopp.
Cnas. Pearson.
Julius Schaffer.
D. A. Still.
Frank Turner.
Otto F. Gschonng.
T. J. Hine.
Try one of those new meat cutters for sale at McKnight's.

Rossland is no Place for Workers.

Rossland, B. C., Feb. 20, 96.
Editor Acantha—Having received a number of letters from Teton county enquiring about this camp, I will say through your columns that for a poor man this is the worst camp on earth. Wages here are comparatively nothing. A miner gets \$3 per day, that is if he has a pedigree as long as both arms; but he must pay one dollar for hospital fees; his miner's license of \$5, and washing fifty cents per week, so a man has to work for less than \$2 per day.

The last time I worked in the mines I lasted one shift and a half. The boss put me to work with a dago. We were down 200 feet in solid rock. I was striking the drill with an eight pound hammer and the dago was turning. It was an upper hole and I was getting along nicely when all at once the hammer glanced from the drill and hit the dago in the mouth, so I had to lie off the remainder of the shift as I had no partner. The next morning the boss said, "Cramer, go down to the office and settle up." My board came to \$3.50, horse hire, to pack my blankets, \$2, hospital fees \$1, poll tax \$3, in all \$9.50, and I got for my work \$4.50 in solid cash. I did not want to lose anything so I went to the hospital when I came in and got a bottle of medicine. I thought I might need it some day.

I find that there are as many good miners out of employment here as there are poor ones. Miners are thicker here than sheep herders in Choteau after shearing. Wood choppers get one dollar per cord for chopping cord wood in snow waist deep. Carpenters get thirty cents an hour and can put in eight hours per day. Teamsters get \$1 from 4 a. m. to 10 p. m. at \$35 per month. Now if any of you fellows want work, and work is what you are going to have, just strike Leech or Jones or some of those sheep men down there and let this campaign. I speak from experience. I have found out that a man cannot eat solid rock no matter how much gold it may contain.

But I will say that in my opinion this is going to be the richest gold camp in North America within the next two years. There are new discoveries being made every day and if a man has a few hundred dollars to invest he cannot find a better place to invest it than in Rossland, B. C. Money here is very scarce and the town is full of prospectors who are broke and a man can with a little money get hold of undeveloped property in good locations very cheap. But where a prospector has any ore in sight he asks a good price for it.

I receive the Acantha as well as the Montanian every week and thereby keep well posted on what is going on in Teton county. I expect to be back in "God's country" next fall, if not before then, and enjoy the luxuries of a common sheep herder.
As soon as the snow goes off James Ralston, who is my room mate, and I are going on a prospecting trip and expect to be gone about three months. Wm Ralston leaves here next Monday for home and expects to be gone a month or six weeks. R. O. Cramer.

The stockmen of this section will find something of interest in the following from the Drover's Journal: The matter of reckless hide branding costs cattlemen hundreds of thousands of dollars every year. The London chamber of commerce, at the instance of its leather trade section, drew the attention of the Australasian chambers of commerce to the great depreciation in the values of hides shipped from the colonies by reason of the system of branding and suggested their adoption of some system of smaller branding placed on a less valuable portion of the hide, or some other distinction marks. The same trouble is experienced here. Our cattlemen do not stop to consider such "small" matters, and that is where they make a mistake.

If you want a delicious pie get some of that prepared mines meat at McKnight's.