

THE RIVER PRESS.

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No. 8.

GOOD NEWS FROM BARKER.

Prospects of an Early Resumption of Operations at the Camp.

Wm. McQueen, the assignee in the case of F. W. Reed & Co., arrived in the city Sunday evening and will remain a few days. The store is at present in the hands of the sheriff, and closed. Mr. McQueen reports everything quiet in the camp and no more die left. He says that at no time did the men take anything forcibly from the store and he never for a moment feared any such action. He placed too much reliance in the good sense and honor of the citizens of the gulch to expect such a thing.

From Mr. McQueen we learn that H. D. Burghardt, manager of the Clendenin mining and smelting company, left Clendenin Sunday for Helena, going across the mountains, via Neihart, the purpose of his visit to the capital being to meet Mr. Tillinghast and other gentlemen, with the view of making an adjustment of the affairs of the company and resuming operations. He seemed to have the utmost confidence that this would be done.

As further evidence of the good prospect for Barker we can state that Col. J. J. Donnelly is just in receipt of a letter from Mr. Burghardt, in which he states that the money due the former claimants of the Silver Belle will be paid in a few days, and that the smelter will be running in full blast again inside of thirty days. This means that every creditor of the company will get his money in a few months, and that Barker will again take its place among the prosperous mining camps of the territory.

As a further subject, we are informed by Mr. McQueen that he was shown the full evidence by Mr. Dyer, the book-keeper and confidential clerk of the company, that if the crash of Tillinghast & Co., involving the smelting company, had not occurred for two or three months the latter company would have been upon such a financial basis as to be absolutely independent. At the rate they were making money for the two months prior to the collapse, three months more would have wiped out the debts of the concern. The records show it. This being true, and with the mine looking so much better than it ever has, it would be a great wrong on the part of the creditors not to give the company a show to pay out. We trust that Mr. Burghardt's trip to the capital will be as successful as he anticipates.

Mail Service.

A petition was circulated yesterday, and generally signed, urging Delegate Maginnis to use his influence to have a mail route established from Andersonville (near Maiden) to Clagett, on the Missouri river, a distance of about fifty miles, with a postoffice at the latter place. Such a mail route would be an accommodation to a great many people—not only at Clagett and adjacent points, but along the entire line of the route, where quite a number of settlers have located. It is to be hoped our delegate will secure the establishment of this needed route at once.

Another petition to Major Maginnis, equally signed yesterday. It asks for a mail route from Fort Benton up the Teton valley to Choteau or Old Agency. It is truthfully represented that this valley is now settled the entire distance of ninety miles, and that, to the great inconvenience of settlers, there is no post office nearer than Fort Benton or Old Agency. A post office is also asked for at an intermediate point. This route should have been established at least a year ago and we trust that Delegate Maginnis will present the matter to the department in such a light as to secure the service without delay.

The New Route.

The Billings coach made the first trip yesterday by the new route, via Cora and Geyser stations, the latter being about midway between Cora and Stanford. This is called Geyser station because of a remarkable spring near by that shoots up out of the ground—a sort of a miniature geyser. There is plenty of good country between Cora creek and Stanford and with the conveniences offered by a tri-weekly mail line, it is safe to say it will settle up rapidly. While there is no material difference in distance between this and the old route the stage company will, without a doubt, have a much better local business as a result of the change. Then, besides, it is a consolidation of the Barker and Billings lines as far as Cora creek.

Undeveloped Bonanzas.

We had an interview with a well traveled gentleman, a few days since, as to the probabilities of rich gold and silver mines being struck in the Bear's Paw, Little Rockies and Sweet Grass hills. We got quite a flattering report from this traveler as to the riches which will soon be torn from the rock-ribbed mountains, as these all lay in the great northern Indian reservation which will, without doubt, be thrown open this winter by congressional action for prospecting and settlement by the whites. The well known Dennis Halpin has a quartz lead in the Bear's Paw which he would not take many thousands for and which he is sure will give him a home-stake. Capt. O'Brien, who was stationed at the Sweet Grass hills last summer, found plenty of rich looking silver quartz, which he sent to the states to have assayed. The returns were not known to our informant, but were no doubt large. Some rich silver rock was lately brought from the Little Rockies

by a Mr. Murphy, who is well known in Benton. He had this rock at Bob Main's place, down the Missouri, near Rocky Point. When burned in the fire it would blister and globules of silver as large as grains of wheat would be found all over the quartz.

These few items are only given as samples of the riches that await the hardy miner and prospector who will risk a little and venture into the "Promised Land" just across the Marias. No wonder the boys are getting impatient at the tardy action of congress in giving them permission to go and look over the country for themselves. The Indians have no earthly use for that gold and silver, and our people have. So give us a show to get some of it.

A Pleasant Affair.

SUN RIVER, December 8, 1883.

A delightful entertainment was given on Friday evening by Mrs. I. S. Corson to a select number of friends at her new house across the bridge. In Sun River and the adjacent valley can be found some of the handsomest and most beautiful homes in Montana, but few can equal or surpass that of the charming hostess of the evening, who, with the aid of her sisters, the Misses Gibb succeeded admirably in affording a pleasant evening to her friends. Dancing was indulged in until a late hour, when an elegant repast was served, and the guests departed for their homes wishing all success to the new house and its occupants.

CORRESPONDENT.

The Case of L. C. Stark.

The case of L. C. Stark, who was charged with the robbery of T. C. Power & Bro.'s store, on the night of the 22d inst., which has been on trial before Judge Kanouse for two days past, closed Monday. The defendant was represented by Col. M. J. Leaning, and the prosecution by Buck & Hunt. There were a great many witnesses for the prosecution, and the evidence was all circumstantial. The defendant gave a full and apparently candid statement of the particulars of the robbery. Our readers are acquainted with the facts as reported at the time of the occurrence. Stark was in his office about 11 o'clock p. m., when a man came in and asked for a ticket to St. Paul, and threw down a \$100 bill. Stark took the bill to make change, and as he turned to do so the man dealt him a blow on the back of the head which staggered him, and as he turned the robber again hit him on the forehead, which blow knocked him down and he remained unconscious for several minutes.

After hearing the evidence and the argument of counsel the court at once discharged the prisoner. Mr. Stark has hitherto borne a good character and his friends are glad to see him pass through the trying ordeal unscathed.

Water Wheels.

Chas. Rowe drove through town yesterday with a new shaft for the water wheel down on the Missouri. This is a fine one, sawed by W. O. Dexter on Highwood; eight sided and about 20 feet long. The wheel that shaft turns ought to throw quite a stream of water and irrigate a good large patch of ground on Rowe's ranch. This next year several thorough tests are to be made of these water wheels for irrigating purposes and their efficiency should then be pretty well demonstrated and the question settled whether or not they are a success. James Rowe will have one working on the Missouri about ten miles below town; Mr. Henry Hepler one on the Teton, about three miles from town, and one up on the Marias at the ranch of the Benton & St. Louis cattle company. James Rowe and Mr. Hepler had their shafts started this last season but in both instances a defective log which the shaft was made gave way just as they had begun to run them nicely. If this system of irrigation proves a success it will double the value of ranches in the bottoms along the Missouri, Teton and Marias where by reason of cut banks and short bottoms it is impossible to get out a ditch without big expense for fluming.

Stock Companies.

Articles of incorporation of the Concord cattle company have been filed in the office of the secretary of the territory; capital stock, \$150,000, in 300 shares of \$500 each. The general office of the company is at Concord, in the county of Merrimack, New Hampshire, with a local office at Miles City. Also articles of incorporation of the Keystone cattle company, with a capital stock of \$100,000, divided into 100,000 shares of \$10 each. Principal business office at Glendive, Montana. The Northwestern cattle company have filed additional articles increasing their capital stock from \$90,000 to \$315,000. The Townsend bridge company have filed articles of incorporation in \$10,000, to construct a bridge over the Missouri river. The stock is divided into a thousand shares at \$10 a share. Principal office at Townsend, Meagher county.—Herald.

Our Sensible Governor.

A Washington dispatch states: Gov. Crosby of Montana recommends to congress, through the secretary of the interior, the immediate cutting down of all Indian reservations "now covering two-fifths of the area of Montana," to the actual wants of 18,000 Indians, throwing the lands open to settlement. He urges relief for the Blackfeet, North Piegans, Assinaboines and Gros Ventres, also that schools for educating Indians in agricultural pursuits be established.

The Booming Marias.

SOLOMON'S RANCH, MARIAS CROSSING, Dec. 3, 1883.

Editors of the River Press:

Yesterday between 1 and 2 o'clock p. m., a rumbling noise, like the roar of Niagara or a tornado, was heard at this point. No notice, however, was taken of it at first, but the noise increased and everybody wondered until Mr. Solomon said that the Teton had broke loose. In a few minutes more Mr. DeWolf came down the road, with his whip laying all over his horses; but said whip did not stop long at one spot. His team is not a 28j one, and he had to larrup them to keep ahead of the flood. From him we heard that about ten feet of ice and water was coming down. On it came—ice, drift wood, lumber, logs and brush—with a mad rush, tearing banks of ice ahead and tossing it as if a feather. On, till it vomited its mouthful on the hitherto quiet Marias. It shot its masses straight across the river, piling up ice ten or fifteen feet high, with a tumble and rumble that made one think "Where you been all summer and no winter clothes." The rush came upon the Marias so suddenly that the amount of ice and water choked the larger river above and below for awhile, and then all took a downward course. The ice in the Marias began to heave and groan and bulge up as though a huge plow was beneath its icy mirror. Not more than ten minutes before several men had crossed with safety, and a man on horseback had crossed the Teton about the same time at its mouth. The upper Marias loosened up—the only one that has loosened up down here for a week—about midnight and tore things up generally. The river has been raging all day. It is full of ice, with several feet of water above low water mark. We transferred the mail and passengers in a skiff, and all got over safe, they resuming their journey by another rig, leaving the coach from Benton on this side of the river. The river will be all right again in a day or two.

VESPER.

December 4.—The ice is still running and the river is at a stand. We were obliged to transfer the mail and passengers again to-day and all got over safe.

VESPER.

Macleod Mail.

Mr. Z. D. Holmes, who is just in with I. G. Baker & Co.'s Macleod coach, reports the drowning of a young fellow familiarly known as "the Kid," about the 15th of November, at the Blackfoot crossing of Bow river. What makes it worse is that no one up there seems to know his real name and where he was from, only that he went north with "Dutch" Patrick last August and has ever since been working as a cowboy for I. G. Baker & Co. Some Indians found the broncho on which the boy had started out alone that morning, standing, dripping wet, in the ford. It is supposed the horse fell, stunning the rider, so that he was washed under the ice before he recovered consciousness, as the water is not deep at the ford. No traces of his remains had been found.

The late storm was a severe one in the north, though they did not have much snow. It was 26° below zero at Duke Akers' place, at Whoop-up. When the coach was on its return the chinook had struck the snow and many of the coulees had to be crossed by swimming the streams that were then flowing in them.

As an instance of the enterprise of our northern neighbors an important place like Fort Macleod will only be allowed one mail a week after the new mail contract goes into effect on January 1st, by way of the Canadian Pacific.

The Bloods are dying off rapidly with a disease resembling the mountain fever.

Joe Kipp's ferry boat was all marshes to pieces by the late flood in the Marias. The ice was piled ten feet high on each side of the stream after the flood had subsided, necessitating the cutting of a road through the big blocks. Joe is expected in Fort Benton to-day with his teams. Geo. W. Parker was met on his way to Fort Macleod with his face so badly frost-bitten and swollen up as to almost obliterate his former good looks.

Montana District.

As will be remembered by those of our readers who are interested in mining matters, an account was given in a recent issue of the RIVER PRESS of placer discoveries, by Dan Carpenter and others, on Snow creek, a small tributary of Carpenter creek, in the Montana mining district. It is now reported that another placer prospect has been struck at the mouth of Carpenter creek, where it empties into Belt, about a mile and a half below the former discoveries. We are informed by Anthony Goessman, who is just in from the mountains, that in digging a cellar under the cabin of Dan Buchanan and August Heytte, near the mouth of Carpenter creek, at the depth of two feet they struck a deposit of fine black sand, which looked so much like gold diggings that they immediately panned out some of the dirt. The first pan yielded fifteen colors of fair size, and subsequent pans did as well. The boys naturally think that, taken in connection with the gold bearing leads up on Snow creek and the placer discoveries just above them, the chances of having struck good ground are quite favorable. We wish them success, with the hope that their prospect will develop into a paying lamp.

Tuck Lambert has gone up on Snow creek to work on those rich leads, the I. X. L. and O. K. B. S. Fitzpatrick and Dan Buchanan are soon going to work on their fine prospect under Old

Baldy, on upper Snow creek. Capt. McIntosh, Wallace Bell and Jimmy Chamberlain are busy sledding rich ore from the Montana Belle and their other mines over the range to White Sulphur Springs. This ore will be shipped east, and will no doubt pay the boys well for their trouble, as it is very high grade. The snow is nearly all gone out of the gulch near Neihart and the weather is very pleasant.

In the Cœur d'Alene.

Bill Shelton, who was here last summer during the races, caught the mining fever and joined the stampede to the Cœur d'Alene, where he is now running a saloon and making money. He writes the glowing account of the camp to his brother Jim Shelton, of this city, and the latter will probably join him before very long. He had intended to start yesterday, but postponed the trip on account of some unsettled business matters. The former thinks it is going to be the greatest mining camp ever discovered and so writes to his brother. He has secured an interest in a claim there that he thinks will pan out a big pile of dust.

The \$700 and \$300 Chamber Sets.

The raffle for these valuable and beautiful articles will come off during the holidays and as there are only a few tickets unsold those who want a "chance" should nail onto the tickets without delay. Considering the value of the articles and the fact that there are two chances to make a winning, the price of the tickets is remarkably low.

School Statistics.

We are indebted to Dr. J. W. Wheelock, county superintendent of public schools, for the following statistics, taken from his report to the territorial superintendent:

Number of districts in county.....	51
Number enrolled between 4 and 21 years of age..	671
Average attendance.....	152
Length of school term.....	87 1/2 days
Wages.....	\$30.00
Taxes collected (estimated).....	\$ 8,350.00
Township School Fund.....	12,000.00

Episcopal Bazaar.

The ladies of the Episcopal church having completed all the arrangements for their festival and bazaar have decided to hold it on Friday, the 14th inst. in the store recently occupied by Robert Pfendtner, on Front street, near Baker street; the room will be open at 1 o'clock p. m.; supper at 5 o'clock p. m. They will offer for sale the finest lot of fancy work ever to be seen in Fort Benton—just the thing for Christmas gifts. There will be an abundance of fresh oysters and other eatables which will be sold at reasonable prices. Among the attractions will be a fishing pond and grab bag. The ladies have worked hard to make this thing a great success and it is hoped that every one will attend and there is no doubt but they will be well repaid.

The Commissioners.

The board of commissioners held a short session Saturday and adjourned over until Monday. They are allowed by law to sit eight days during the December term, and there will doubtless be work for them during the whole time. There is a full board of three commissioners this time, and business is greatly expedited. The new member, Mr. C. E. Conrad, displays the same zeal and ability in directing the affairs of the county as he does in his own counting room, and, fully assisted by the other members, has inaugurated a few very wholesome reforms. But a beginning has only been made. The rest of the session might profitably be devoted to the same line of work, and by doing so the board would earn the gratitude of the people. The RIVER PRESS proposes to publish in detail the minutes of this session of the board so that the people may know what the county fathers have been doing.

The City Council.

The regular meeting of the city council was held last Saturday with all the members present except Mr. Coombs, President Roosevelt presiding. The reports of various officers were received and referred to the proper committee. Mr. Genzberger submitted an informal report from the city treasurer showing that there is now in his hands, after paying warrants to the amount of \$381.69, \$5,861.69, of which \$2,250 belongs to the fire department.

Bills were allowed as follows: Sheriff McDevitt, board for prisoners, \$65; John Keenan, for glass, \$2; Gus Senieur, work on culvert, \$2; G. W. Sheridan, hauling a dead mule to the river, \$2; Murphy, Maclay & Co., merchandise, \$42; F. C. Roosevelt, frame, \$12.

Jere Sullivan, chairman of committee on streets and alleys, reported that the contract for building sidewalks, in accordance with the advertisements, had been let to W. O. Dexter for \$625, with the exception of the walk in front of two lots the contract for which had been let to I. G. Baker & Co. at 68 cents a running foot.

On motion of Mr. Sullivan it was ordered that J. N. Ethier be employed at \$3 a day to clean up the fire engine and put the apparatus in good condition. A motion by the same gentleman to have the road tax refunded to the members of the fire department who have paid the same was unanimously adopted.

On motion of Mr. Genzberger it was made the duty of the night watchman to light two lamps in the engine house every night and extinguish the lights in the morning. The clerk was instructed to notify him to that effect.

LATEST TELEGRAMS.

What Mormons Think of the President's Recommendation.

SALT LAKE, December 7.—The Salt Lake Herald, a Mormon journal owned by John T. Kaine, the Mormon delegate, and others, says of the President's Utah recommendation this morning: "This is one of the most sweeping measures that have been proposed for the correction of Utah. It is full of evil possibilities and may become probabilities when we reflect upon the character of the persons who would likely have the enforcement of the statutes. When Arthur recommends the adoption of such extraordinary measures for dealing with the Mormon problem as this, it is evident that he contemplates vigorous action in congress by placing the matter in his hands and giving him full swing according to his ambitious inclination." The question is being discussed all over the territory and the church leaders are much agitated.

A Big Storm at Denver.

DENVER, December 7.—A snow and wind storm visited this section last night which in disastrous effects is without a parallel in the history of the state. The snow commenced falling at noon and continued all night. The weather was mild and the snow attached itself to the telegraph wires until they were two inches in diameter. At 4 o'clock this morning the wind blew almost a gale, and in about half an hour 300 poles eight inches in diameter were blown down. A dozen squares are blockaded and all trains were delayed until this evening. Outside communication is completely cut off. The telephone company's probable loss is 15,000, and the damage to the railroad telegraph, the electric light and the district messenger companies is heavy. Strangely no loss of life is reported, and only a few serious accidents. The storm was entirely local.

Another Railroad For Montana.

CHEYENNE, December 8.—Articles of incorporation were filed to-day by the Wyoming, Yellowstone Park & Pacific railroad. Among the incorporators are Dupont, the famous powder manufacturer, A. R. Converse, president of the First National Bank of Cheyenne, and W. Hale, governor of Wyoming. The road will run through the coal, iron and petroleum region of western Wyoming into the National park and Montana. Construction will begin in the spring.

A Petition in Favor of O'Donnell.

WASHINGTON, December 8.—A congressional delegation called upon the president to-day and presented a petition praying for the respite of O'Donnell. The president's reply was satisfactory to the delegation. He said the department would at once telegraph Minister Lowell to obtain all possible information regarding O'Donnell's citizenship, and he (the president) would do all he could, with propriety, to further the wishes of the delegation.

Carlisle's Tariff Views.

WASHINGTON, December 9.—Congressman Lowry, of Indiana, one of Carlisle's enthusiastic supporters, expressed the opinion to-day that the ways and means committee reflect Carlisle's views upon the tariff question, and that the house will, without doubt, take steps at this session to lessen the tariff on the necessities of life and reduce the revenues.

Patent Refused.

WASHINGTON, December 8.—Secretary Teller has declined to patent a lode mining claim to Kennett & McGriffith, Central City, holding that in order to make valid the location they must have all portions of the lode contiguous, without an intervening claim.

Chicago Wants the Convention.

CHICAGO, December 8.—A delegation, which left this city for Washington to-day for the purpose of attempting to secure the holding of the next national republican convention in this city, will appear before the national committee at its coming meeting.

Stoned by Roughs.

PITTSBURG, December 9.—A dispatch from Collinsville says Mrs. Langtry's car was stoned by roughs as it passed through that place this evening.

Burned.

GLOUCESTER, Mass., December 9.—The Annisquam mill at Rockport burned this morning. Loss, \$400,000; insured for \$300,000.

The Civil Rights Movement—Manitoba Boundary.

WINNIPEG, December 7.—The civil rights movement is gaining strength and the farmers are organizing in every district and appointing delegates to the convention at Winnipeg on the 19th inst.

The Ontario government has agreed to refer the whole Manitoba boundary dispute to a commission.

Extensive Fire.

WILMINGTON, N. C., December 7.—This town is in ashes. The entire business portion burned last night. The steamer Commerce, of the Baltimore, Roanoke & Norfolk line, with 200 bales of cotton and a quantity of miscellaneous freight, was also burned. The fire is supposed to be incendiary.