

Montana Freight Rates and Routes.

During the present freighting season there have been complaints from the towns, other than Helena and Deer Lodge, of a discrimination in freight rates having been made against them by the U. P. R. It is the unreasonable of the alleged discrimination against Virginia, Roseman, Missoula and other towns induced us to doubt its having been made. It was, however, to some extent a fact. While consignees at Helena and Deer Lodge received their freight over the U. P. R. from Omaha to Ogden at \$1.25 per cwt., without regard to classification, consignees at all other places in Montana were charged \$1.50 per cwt. The occasion of this was some one to Mr. Vining of the Union Pacific Co. statements to the effect that shipments elsewhere than to Helena and Deer Lodge must necessarily come over the U. P. R. R., and that additional rate could be compelled without diverting their patronage. The agent's ignorance of distance, facilities and the topography of the country led him into the error of establishing the discrimination which has resulted in the evasion of the extra rate by many shippers there placed by diverting their goods marked to Helena or Deer Lodge. Mr. Vining's attention being directed to the facts he saw the error, but owing to the fact that the information and the complications that would occur in revisions and rebates, he concluded not to change the schedule this season, but make it uniform next. Even the \$1.50 rate is very low as the distance is 1000 miles, and the largest shippers at Helena are charged \$2.50 for the same service. The U. P. R., however, to make these low rates on Montana shipments to compete with the Northern Pacific and the Great Northern R. R., and it is probable we will have as low or lower rates next year. The latter route, owing to several adverse circumstances—the late wet season, the establishing of a new road, and the inefficiency of the steamer service—has not been a success this year, and there is much well-founded dissatisfaction among shippers. Many lots of freight shipped from the East in March have not yet reached consignees, occasioning direct and indirect loss in business. While this will doubtless be radically remedied by another season, and Montana will, other things being equal, give preference to the Northern Pacific route, it is still evident that the U. P. R. route will yet require much of the business which has been diverted from it this year. There has been but slight difference in through rates on the two routes, the figures ranging from 41 cts. to nearly 7 cts. The average rate has been, though, lower than previous seasons, and the advantage of active competitive routes fully impressed upon shippers not only in receiving goods but in loading back quarts. That the Northern route should be sustained and the competition maintained is self-evident. That the Utah Northern will soon extend their road over to the stage road, and perhaps to Snake River, thereby giving that route greater advantages in economical transportation, is highly probable, as is now becoming manifest that the distance saved by wagon freighting from Franklin instead of Corinne, does not justify the re-shipment over the narrow gauge, while its extension through Marsh Valley would insure to it all the Montana trade and transportation. The uncertainty of the river during the fall months will throw the bulk of shipments during the remainder of the season over the U. P. R., and Corinne is making a strong effort, apparently not unavailing, to at least have that the ships part of the freight for Montana until the narrow-gauge is extended considerably north. —New North West, Aug. 22.

Deception of Stramonium for Hydrophobia.

French priests who have resided for years among the Cochiti Chiriquis have advised me that hydrophobia is extremely common in that portion of the East, and that the native doctors experience no difficulty in curing it every time—provided they see the patient in the early stages of its development—by giving their patients a decoction of the leaves of the stramonium in doses large enough to make them delirious for twenty-four hours, after which period they allow them to recover, and it is said that the hydrophobic symptoms, which have disappeared on the induction of the delirium, do not return. I believe that this mode of curing hydrophobia is published by some of these returned missionaries in the far Eastern papers. I know nothing of the truth of these alleged facts, but if I had a case of the kind to treat, I should certainly think the remedy worth a trial. Some slight confirmatory evidence I can give, which, however, I knew of long before I was taken for what it is worth. When in practice in Ceylon, East Indies, I knew a very intelligent half-caste physician, who had been regularly educated at the British Medical School at Calcutta; this man told me the following story: One of his children, aged about eight years, was bitten by a cat, supposed to be afflicted with hydrophobia. The bite was cauterized and healed up, but some few months afterwards this child was seized with the fearful malady, the symptoms of which were those of stramonium. He kept the child under the influence of this drug for some two days and nights. At the end of this period he discontinued his medicine; the child made a perfect recovery, and was seen by me in perfect health. The father, who knew nothing of the statements of the French priests, told me that he believed the drug given by the old native doctor to be a decoction of stramonium, a plant which grows wild in profusion all over the Kandian hills, and the seeds of which are constantly used by the natives for the purpose of poisoning those whom they wish to rob. —Medical in San Francisco Chronicle.

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