



ALBERT CARRINGTON.....EDITOR.

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IDAHO.

It seems hardly possible to pick up a paper from the east or west without finding particular attention directed to the discoveries of great wealth in Idaho. On the Pacific, Boise appears to have the greatest attraction: in the Atlantic States, Bannock enjoys the public favor, and both exceed in riches, any mines ever discovered! Colorado doubts the reports, and considers that within their own Territorial boundaries is the El Dorado of the age, only awaiting the talisman—capital—to bring about a development of wealth that will astonish the world! California—with her natural appendage Nevada, and the rich silver mines of that Territory—appears to look down with dignified contempt upon the great confusion of the times, and with the proud consciousness of wealth within her grasp points here and there and inculcates, in a general way, the morale of “a bird in hand worth two in a bush.”

Notwithstanding these efforts of the State on the Pacific and those of our Territorial neighbors east and west of us, Idaho cannot fail to receive an immense accession to her population this summer. As soon as the Missouri is cleared of ice, steamers are to ply between St. Louis and Fort Benton, with passengers and freight; and at all the river towns, between Atchison, and St. Paul's, Minnesota, we are informed that immense overland trains are outfitting. From Denver, there will be an early rush for the mines, by a new road, passing Fort Laramie, and onward by a north-westerly trail to the Three Forks of the Missouri, cutting off nearly 400 miles of the usually traveled road through this city. As an indication of the excitement in the Pacific we clip the following:

HOL FOR THE BOISE MINES.—The country seems to be on fire from one end to the other, with excitement relative to the Boise Mines, and everybody who can make a successful trade in “feet” is making preparations for a trip to the “placers.” Without the aid of newspapers puffing and blowing, the public have got a deep-seated conviction that there is nothing like these mines; that since the days when every canon, gulch or gully in our own State was a natural saving bank, upon which any man of muscle was permitted to make a draft without fear of protest, all other gold excitements were mere shams, gotten up for the purpose of giving certain public carriers a substantial benefit; but that now we are to be blessed with a healthy, vigorous, and paying thing—something that has not been salted, nor will not peter out, but which will rival the good old days of '49, when every tatterdemalion had his pockets full of nuggets. The merchants have also become impressed with the “big thing” in store, and are straining every nerve to push forward supplies, expecting to reap rich rewards from the furnishing “honest miners” with outfits. The Brother Jonathan is advertised to sail on the 17th, and already every berth, and almost every foot of room in the cabin, has been secured by passengers, while the demand for ship-room, for freight, is perfectly appalling to the uninitiated. Yesterday morning, about half-past ten o'clock, we counted one hundred and sixteen trucks and drays in line awaiting an opportunity to discharge their freight for shipment by the steamer. Sailing vessels are put up for Portland and taken immediately, by those who are determined to be first in the market. We notice that a large proportion of the gold-hunters are recent arrivals from the Atlantic States, men not well calculated to brave the hardships of a frontier life, and we fear that too many of them will become discouraged and turn back. If they feel weary and become disheartened, let them take a lesson from those who have served an apprenticeship in the hills of California, and push forward and see if there is anything in it; for only the bold can win.—[S. F. Call, 16 h.]

The Overland Mail stages begin to feel the advantages of the excitement and “loaded outside and in,” and “engaged,” before the day of travel, is already the agreeable language of the distant offices. Mr. Holladay, with all the advantages of early inspiration, takes the road between this and Virginia city under his

particular care, and quietly announces that on or about the 1st of May he will run daily stages, for the conveyance of passengers, express matter and treasure. In addition to this, Oliver and Company's Express professes to put through passengers and mail matter committed to their care; and mail Contractor Smith is out with his circulars, after the same fashion. On the 1st of July, Mr. E. S. Alvord, the new mail contractor commences tri-weekly mail service in the same direction, and not at all unlikely, “to accommodate the public,” Mr. Alvord will also go into the passenger carrying business. It is almost unnecessary to hint that the less favored with this world's goods will find any amount of passenger carrying ox trains starting from this city, from now to next winter's snows.

While so much is being done in favor of the eastern division of Idaho, on or before the first of July there will be ample accommodation for the traveling community from this city to the western division of Idaho, or Boise. Mr. Holladay puts on tri-weekly service, and probably others will take up the slower enterprise of mules and oxen, and thus we have the prologue to the comedy, the drama and the tragedy in store for Idaho.

We have no criticism to offer on the rumors of the great wealth in Idaho; it may be all true, it may be far short of the truth, and, still, the future may develop wealth beyond the calculations of the most sanguine; but that there is gold there, we know from the amount of it that has been expended in this city, during the past winter, and the still larger amounts that have passed through to both the Pacific and Atlantic States. Those who had business here with the first miners from Beaver Head early noted by their quiet, unostentatious manner that they had got the metal. They said nothing, but passed along with that air of satisfaction that can never be counterfeited by pretention.

THE COUNTRY AND ITS MINES.

From the Hon. James Tufts, of Virginia city, who passed through here last week, we gathered considerable information of the Territory of Idaho that will interest our readers at the present time.

During the session of the Legislature, the Territory was divided into the following counties: Beaver Head, Madison, Jefferson, Chateau, Dawson, Big Horn, Ogallala and Yellow Stone, to the east of the Rocky Mountains; Deer Lodge, Missouri, Shoshone, Idaho, Nez Perce, Boise, Owyhee, Alturus, and Oneida, to the west of the Rocky Mountains, and Lewiston, situated at the extreme western verge of the Territory, remains the capital. The delegation from the Beaver Head country, or the eastern division of the Territory, had to cross the Bitter Root Mountains in November, through five feet of snow, to reach the Legislature; but sensibly have preferred to return by way of Walla Walla, in Washington Territory, down the Columbia river to Portland, Oregon; from there to San Francisco, California, by steamer, and thence by steamboat, rail and stage to this place—where they were still 400 miles from the place they started from last November. This is a terrible round about, but the snows deep enough in November are deeper now, and over the mountains they could not hope to pass before May, or June.

In the order of neighbors, near and distant, Bannock city is the first of the mining towns, about 400 miles from this, almost due north, with a population of about 1,200 persons. In almost direct line between Bannock city and Fort Benton—north-easterly course—there are the towns of Nevada, Virginia and Gallatin. Nevada has only a population of 1,000 or thereabouts; Virginia has 6,000 of a population, and Gallatin only a few hundreds. There are a multitude of small places here and there, as the discovery of the precious metals draw a population together; but the places named are the principal. In the event of the division of the Territory, Gallatin would be the centre, and from its location, it is believed by many, that light draught steamers can ascend that far up the Missouri.

The mineral resources of Idaho are reported to be exhaustless. The precious metals have been found all along the eastern slope of the Rocky Mountains from the Platte to the Saskatchewan in the British Dominions. The Wind River Mountains are drained chiefly on the east by the Yellow Stone river and its tributaries. The Big Horn and Wind River are chief of these; their valleys, with their countless branches are rich in Placer Mines.

The valleys below the mountains are rich in soil and delightful in climate. The whole region abounds in game. Buffalo, elk, deer and antelope almost literally cover the prairies. The Sioux and Crow Indians in the region of the Yellow Stone are fierce in their opposition to the advance of the white man; but the country, if as rich as reported, is too rich to admit of a doubt of the result. Within the last few days a company of 300 miners started out from Virginia for the Yellow Stone country determined to explore and hold their own, and every effort is being made to get the government to furnish troops for the general protection, and no doubt a military post will be established there.

What is known as the Beaver Head country embraces the sources of the Missouri—the three forks, Jefferson, Madison and Gallatin, and Big Hole or Wisdom river. The name originated with the Indians, from the fancied resemblance of a point of rock on the Jefferson to the head of a Beaver, and from this the country and the stream bear the name. Beaver Head is the most western extremity of land, east of the Rocky range, situated in a great bend of the mountains. The mines in that neighborhood already opened are mostly on the Jefferson fork at Bannock city, and in the vicinity of Virginia on the Stinking Water. The water there is as pure and sweet as any which ever gushed forth from the mountains, and the unfragrant name is only traceable to the whim or freak of Mr. Indian. The Legislature changed the disagreeable name of Stinking Water to Fairweather, after the chief of a company of miners who first discovered gold in that country.

There are mines opened on the Prickly Pear, to the north of Virginia City; and, all along the base of the mountains to the sources of the Marias, discoveries have been made. A fine agricultural region extends from the base of the mountains to the east down the tributaries of the Yellow Stone. A beautiful and romantic nook of land, about the size of Connecticut is found near the sources of the Yellow Stone. The sheet of water known as Sublette's Lake, nearly 100 miles in length, is a charming sheet of water surrounded by a beautiful country with abundant timber.

THE CEMETERY.

Our good offices were requested the other day by a gentleman to expose the habit of persons passing over the wall into the cemetery, and having thought over the subject we comply.

We most respectfully suggest that the gateway of the cemetery be left unlocked during certain hours of each day, and then no person will injure the walls, or themselves in affecting an entrance to the enclosure. Mr. Sexton Mitchell has too much good sense to expect every person to know where he lives, and even with that information he can hardly expect that they would hunt there the key and run back again with it every time it was wanted. We know of nothing that the City Council could do that would be more agreeable to the people than their expenditure of the trifling amount necessary to engage some aged or infirm person to properly take care of the cemetery, keep the gate and ornament the place. We are aware of the strict economy necessary to keep the wheels of government moving, and the many calls upon their attention; but there is no place in the city on which their fatherly care and attention could be so disinterestedly appreciated. They have built a good substantial wall, put up a fine gate; but it wants some person there, to see that the affectionate and the afflicted are not hindered in visiting the graves that entomb the ashes of their dear departed. In by-gone ages, the dead were consigned to the silent tomb, skull and cross bones were the only rude sepulchral ornaments that greeted the eyes of the visitor, and a dull, dread fear was ever after associated with the graveyard. To-day, the resting places of the dead are beautified, garnished with flowers and statutes, and grim death is robbed of half his terrors. No people have a more happy faith uniting the living with the dead, none should be so ready to show their respect for the departed.

SCHOOL EXAMINATION.—A Public Examination of the Scholars of the Fourteenth Ward School will take place on Friday April 1st: Exercises commencing at 9 a. m. and at half past one p. m. Mr. Tripp invites the patrons of education,

THE FIRST BANNOCK MAIL.

After a long wandering in unknown regions and battling with deep snows, Contractor Leonard I. Smith returned to the city last Friday night, the 25th inst., with the first U. S. Mail from Bannock City, Idaho. We have seen communications from the acting Postmaster at Bannock, and from Capt. Black commanding at Camp Connor, Soda Springs, that are very complimentary to Smith and his employees, for their exertions in carrying through the mails under very discouraging circumstances. Captain Black warmly seconded the enterprise, and deserves well the thanks of those interested for the assistance he rendered personally and by his command to put through the first mails to Idaho. Not having the names of those engaged we can only notice that some of the Volunteers have suffered severely from the snow and cold; one of the men being left for a while on the way completely blind. The severity of the trip is greater than anything we have heard of in winter travelling for some years. If Smith goes about that business as he could, he will no doubt have compensation from the Department. We hear of one of our city merchants dunning Congress for relief from ruinous flour contracts! If Smith only knew how, he has got a magnificent ease.

DOWN SOUTH.—Our intelligent correspondent at St. George, in date of March 12th, writes very encouragingly of the prospects of living a way down in our Dixie, and breathes a manly spirit on things in general. After announcing pulling safely through the winter and deliverance from the various stages of the “gold and silver fever” says:—

Bread has been scarce—scarce—but we confidently trust is now scarcest, as spring advances and early vegetables begin to find their way to our tables.

Asparagus of the second year from the seed, and grown in the open air without artificial forcing appeared on the table as early as February 23th. Trees are in blossom now for something more than a week. Gardening is progressing spiritedly. A number of respectable dwellings have gone up during the winter. Health is good generally.

Jacob Hampton accompanied by some fifteen others, started a few days since on a visit to the Moquis villages. We understand they take with them some spinning wheel heads, etc., and will probably leave a mechanic from the company to instruct the Indians in the use of the wheels and other implements of industry.

ACCIDENT AT PLAY.—Last Tuesday, Theodore Curtis had a fearful fall from the swing erected at the Fourteenth Ward School House, which was at first believed to be fatal; but he is now recovering. His play mates had sent the swing above the horizontal, and the boy, being probably as reckless as the others, was sporting gleefully when he missed his footing and came down. It is pretty difficult to keep the boys in order and within bounds; but the accidents of imprudence should not discourage teachers in any physical recreation they think beneficial for their pupils. We would be glad to see some thorough going, enterprising teacher institute a gymnasium for the young of both sexes. They are fearfully behind the times who do not see the immense advantages of mental and physical education going hand in hand.

LECTURES AT THE SEVENTIES' HALL.—This season's popular lectures were brought to a close last Thursday evening. The Committee, by way of variety, arranged for an entertainment on the soiree style. Readings and recitations were given by Messrs. Tullidge, Broderick and Long; Hon. Mr. Rockwood made a happy little speech, and the choir, under the directorship of Mr. Barson, performed some ten or twelve fine pieces. Among them were “The vacant chair,” solo by Mr. C. R. Savage; “Just before the battle mother,” solo by Miss Rogers; “When this cruel war is over,” and “We'll meet again.”

The Hall was crowded, many went home because they could not gain admission, and in fact this season has shown beyond a doubt that the Seventies' Council Hall is far too small to accommodate those who are interested in such lectures as have been delivered there the past winter.

Will the Seventies' Hall of Science be inclosed and ready for use next winter? We hope so.

GONE EAST.—The Hon. Wm. H. Hooper and General H. S. Eldridge left by mail stage yesterday morning for the eastern States.