THE INLAND EMPIRE.

A Chapter on the Discovery and Resources of Montana.

Its Discovery and Difficulties of Settlement.

Its Natural Wealth and Present Status in the Galaxy of States.

Special Correspondence of The Bee.

August 30—In comparison with most other counties, the territory of Montana—though but one of our 38 states and 11 territories—is an empire in area and resources, and of wonderful healthfulness. It is 520 miles in length east and west, and 276 miles wide north and south, and borders on the British possessions, embracing within its limits two of the five great continental valleys—the Missouri and the Yellowstone—the latter with its 450 miles of navigable water is wholly with the territory, having its source in the National Park

THE WONDERLAND OF THE WORLD.

The great Columbia river has its source in the extreme western part of the territory.

Montana is the third producer of gold of all our wonderfully rich gold and silver producing states and territories, with only a small per cent of her placer or quartz mines, as yet, worked at all.

The nearest point of settlement at the time settlers began to go into Montana was Salt Lake City, Utah, 500 miles distant. No intervening settlements led the way, but a mountainous wilderness, filled with hostile Indians, was continuous, a distance that until the summer of 1879, was harder to overcome than thousands of miles of ocean waters.

A BIT OF HISTORY

may be of general interest concerning the discovery of these vast regions of wealth.

The first white men who discovered the upper part of the Missouri river, were Chevalier De La Verendeye and his brother, who discovered the Red river of the north, coming up from Montreal, via the St. Lawrence and the chain of great lakes, in 1734 There were four of these brothers, one of whom had been killed by the Indians on the island in the "Lake of the Woods" in 1736. These brothers left the Lake of the Woods on the 29th day of April, 1742, and came past Fort La Rouge, up the Assiniboine river, and so on across to

THE UPPER MISSOURI,

passing the Yellowstone river and arrived in sight of the Rocky mountains on the first of January, 1842, and on the 12th ascended them. On the 19th of May, 1744, they returned to the upper Missouri, and on a butte erected a monument of stone twelve feet high by twelve feet square, in which they put a lead seal of the arms of France, thus taking possession of all this country for the government of France. The remnants of this monument still remain. Louisiana, including the present territory of Montana, having been ceded by Spain to France, on the 1st of October, 1800, negotiations for its purchase by the United States were soon after begun, and were completed in a treaty signed in Paris, April 13, 1803; formal possession thereof was taken by the United States December 20th of the same year.

During the year 1803 congress passed a resolution making an appropriation for an exploration of this purchase from St. Louis via the Missouri river, through to the Pacific coast. On the 20th of June, 1803, orders and instructions were issued to

CAPTAIN MERRIWEATHER LEWIS,

of the U. S. army, to prepare for and carry out such an expedition, by Thos. Jefferson, the president of the United States. Captain Lewis, once the private secretary of Jefferson, began his preparations at once, and on the 14th day of May, 1804,

THE EXPEDITION OF LEWIS AND CLARK

left St. Louis, Captain Wm. Clark, of the U. S. A., having been associated as second in command. The force, composed of 43 persons, was divided into three companies; one for hunting and fishing proceeded by land, but joined the other company at night, went by boats up the Missouri. The fleet consisted of three small boats, provided with sails, which made such progress that on the 27th day of October following they went into winter quarters at a large Mandan Indian village, and built Fort Clark about 60 miles above the present town of Bismarck, a river distance of 1,674 miles above St. Louis. Here they remained through the winter of 1803-5, leaving on the 8th day of April, 1805. They reached

THE GREAT FALLS OF THE MISSOURI,

about thirty miles above the present site of Benton, on the 14th of June. On the 27th of July they reached the three forks of the Missouri—now the Jefferson, Madison and Gallatin rivers—251 miles above the portage, or a total river distance from the mouth of 2,858 miles.

They went up the Jefferson, it being the larger and most westerly, 248 miles to its forks, a distance of 3,096 miles from the mouth of the Missouri river. Here they laid up their boats and on the 27th of August of the same year they started across to the Columbia river, reaching it on the 15th of September, and on the 7th of November, 1805, they

REACHED THE PACIFIC OCEAN

and went into winter quarters a little below the mouth of the Columbia river.

March 23d, 1806, they started to return, recrossing the Rocky mountains, and on the 23d of September, 1806, they reached St. Louis after an absence of two years and four months with only a loss of one man.

Grand as the subject of this great expedition would be, if described in detail, giving the accounts of hardships endured and obstacles overcome, the unwielding courage and persistency that must have been required to carry it through so successfully, I must confine myself to the plain facts demanded of the subject embraced in this letter

The organic act creating the

TERRITORY OF MONTANA

was passed by congress May 26, 1864 On the 12th day of December following the first senatorial legislature met at Bannock City, but the capital was located at Virginia City, where it remained until removed to Helena, where it now is.

Montana contains 165,000 square miles of land, embracing in its royal domain more of natural resources of every kind than the kingdom of Great Britain, including England, Wales, Scotland, Ireland and the outlying small islands, and had in 1871 a population of 31,857,338 clever souls, besides

CONTROLLING THE WEALTH OF THE WORLD.

The numerous rivers traversing a myriad of fertile valleys of more or less extent rich with the alluvial soil that only requires irrigation to produce bountiful crops, grand in scenery as they bathe the base of the massive but verdure covered mountain that are so rich in mineral, with sufficient crystal brooks of spring water trinkling down their sides to irrigate with. I see no reason why Montana will not soon be universally recognized as

AMONG THE SUBSTANTIAL

accessories of the union.

More than one-third of Montana is under 4,000 feet elevation, while only a small fraction of Colorado is a low and all of Utah is above it

The extreme western, southwestern and southeastern part is mountainous, while the northern from the 113° of longitude east to Dakota is a rolling prairie covered with sage brush and cactus, and only wants burning off and irrigation to make it

A FINE FARMING DISTRICT.

The casual observer while visiting this new and wild country would scarcely pronounce it as adapted to stock raising, yet the "big Montana cattle" have already made a record among the eastern cattle markets, which is due largely to the climate. A scientific explanation will suffice to show how this warm winter weather can be so far north.

Over that country between latitudes 56 and 62 come the warm track winds of the Pacific, born of the mighty Japanese current, that in its eastern flow strikes our western shores between these latitudes, flowing south along our coast as far as the Gulf of California, and giving that country a spring term a month earlier than St. Paul, Minn. There are no Arctic currents in the Pacific as there are in the same latitudes of the Atlantic, as far south as New York city. The full benefits of this warm, mild atmosphere are felt all along the Pacific coast and far inland. These warm winds come down the north and south valleys in the mountains and through the various depressions in them.

The western winds from the Pacific in the latitude of this territory also bring these warm winter breezes with them, and are known as

THE "CHENOOK WINDS."

The further south from latitude 56, we come, the more Arctic influences diminish in their westward course, while the mild Pacific winds increase to the east as far as Bismarck, Dakota.

The enormous snow fall of the mountains is effected by these winds, and the fact is the "snow belt" is farther south along the line of the U. P. R R.

What snow falls in Montana is blown into the narrow canons and ravines that furrow the sides of the mountains, while the plains and elevated points where exposed to the sun, soon become bare. This is why the cattle of this country are enabled to feed themselves as they do all through the winter.

The winters of Montana are very dry and sunny. Steady cold weather usually coming at Helena in December and continue until early March.

FRUIT.

Wild berries of all kind grow spontaneously, which is prima facia evidence that when properly propagated, plenty of fine flavored fruit can be easily grown.

CHURCHES,

both Protestant and Catholic, have not been unmindful or neglectful of the spiritual wants of the people. The population is 36,000, mostly Americans, and no Mormons, and 38 school houses, with over 100 organized school districts, are freely scattered among them.

RAILROADS

are as yet somewhat limited, but soon the pathway of iron for the locomotive will extend across her virginal acres, and the fiery angel of progress will soon be whirling through her beautiful cactus valleys and the mountain passes in pursuit of

GOLD AND SILVER.

The Union Pacific contemplates extending their line north from Butte via Deer Lodge and Missouli and perhaps onward into the provinces, with branches to Helena, Virginia City and the park, as well as all other points of payinti demands.

SOCIAL LIFE

in Montana is free and easy among her mining camps but the older settled towns are much more refined than is usually expected of a frontier country, and I wish to announce that I have never been treated more cordial and welcome than I have been by the free and liberal handed residents and business men of Montana. They all extend the hand of fellowship to their visitors, with a grip that comes from the heart, without the usual polish of mere form, and if I were to "go broke" I would prefer to be in Montana than in Nebraska.

In conclusion I am amply satisfied that as soon as

MORE AGRICULTURAL LANDS

are required to furnish employment for the masses that the valley of Montana can be profitably utilized therefor to an advantage pecuniarily, while the mineral resources alone produce more wealth than can be grown in many eastern states. F

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A BARREL OF DIAMONDS.

Sparkling Baubles Worn by Almost All the Women at Fashionable Resorts.

Saratoga Cor. Baltimore Sun.

The query as to where all the diamonds in this country come from is a very pertinent one. I verily believe that at Cape May, Long Branch, Newport and Saratoga I have seen this season enough diamonds to fill a barrel. It is a rare exception to meet a woman who has not diamonds somewhere on her person and the majority have them distributed wherever it is possible to find a lodging place. I would not be surprised if the next move is to bore holes in their noses to stick them in. The young lady at Long Branch who expressed so much disgust to me because some man was indulginging profusely in diamonds probably considers it in entire good taste for her own sex to do the same thing, but it is not most certainly to the extent to which many of them carry it.

At a table just opposite to me today four dowagers sat at breakfast. Like all dowagers nowadays, these ladies had an excessive tendency to embonpoint, and in addition they were all of extremely short stature. Each was dressed in white, with most elaborate and gaudy trimmings, and each evidently was undertaking to outshine the other in the display of diamonds. Their ear-rings were enormous, two of the sets being composed of clusters; diamond necklaces hung around their necks with long pendants; great diamond pins nestled on their expansive bosoms and their fingers were almost hidden with sparkling, glittering rings. Had it been en regle to come into the room barefooted I make no doubt they would have had diamond rings on their toes. These four foolish old women showed conscious pride in their baubles, which were far more than a king's ransom, yet they were only enhancing their own homeliness.

At another table close to them sat a younger lady with her husband, who had ear-rings, finger-rings, bracelets, brooches, pins, tiara and necklace, all of diamonds, with two big diamond lizards fastened in her back hair. This lady is said to be the possessor of more costly diamonds than any other woman in the United States. She wears them constantly on her person, because she is afraid to trust them out of her sight.

Making Stained Window Glass.

In making stained glass windows, the coloring matter—red, green, flesh color, or whatever it may be—is first stirred with glass in its molten state. When it is rolled into sheets and cools it comes out the brilliant hue desired. Next, imagine an old-fashioned patchwork quilt, where the little blocks or leaves are cut out by means of paper patterns and sewed together to make the complete figure. There you have the idea of the stained glass windows. Artists who are adepts make a large design of the painting wanted. Different small parts of it are transferred from this, and pasteboard patterns made from these, like the patchwork quilt. The glass is cut into the shape desired with a diamond. Then the pieces are joined together into the perfect whole. The edges are united by means of solder and lead, where the patchwork bits would be sewed with a needle. Thus, making a stained glass window is about as much mechanical as artistic. Rare and fine work, such as the human face and parts of the human figure, are painted upon the glass, requiring the touch of an artist.

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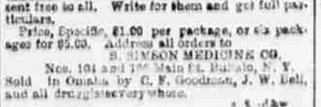

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