

The Helena Independent (1875-1884, 1894, 1924-1954)

August 22nd, 1875

It is not surprising that Brother Hammond is disposed to consider the Californians as incorrigible. The only Celestial influences ever exerted upon the population have been the Chinese, and these have by no means tended to elevate the morals of the gold diggers. It is out here among the mountains of Montana that Brother Hammond will find those Celestial characteristics that mark "true inwardness."

October 8th, 1875

Jefferson Gulch

At the lower end a Chinese company has an 18-inch flume very well put in. It is, of course, impossible to find out what the Celestials are making. S. Ruhl is working on the bar above them. The results are not know, but he has paid \$5 a day to his hired hands all season, so things look satisfactory. R. Richards comes next. This ground at the commencement of the season payed well. A Chinese company next above own a good flume and have don an immense amount of work. They are supposed to have made \$3 to \$6 per day.

November 4th, 1875

The only indictment found by the grand jury was against the Chinaman now in jail for the murder of one of his countrymen.

November 13th, 1875

Ah Chow, the Chinaman who was acquitted of the charge of murdering one of his countryman, is said to have paid his attorneys, Messrs. Chumasero & Chadwick, a fee of three thousand dollars.

November 21st, 1875

Cedar Creek now has a population of from forty to fifty white men and nearly the same number of Chinese.

December 22nd, 1875

The Fire Alarm

The alarm of fire last night came from the Chinese quarter of the city, and was occasioned by the explosion of the crackers, in which amusement the Celestials had been engaged nearly all day. Notwithstanding the high wind, they still persisted in it until the momentary blaze put an end to it. Fortunately the fire was put out before it reached any headway, or the town might have gone as it has done several times before. In the absence of any city charter for local government having cognizance of such matters, there appears to be no way of removing the evil, unless the citizens take the matter in hand, and adopt and enforce such regulations as will lessen the danger that incessantly menaces us. If the Chinese are permitted to explode these dangerous combustibles day and night in the open street and among the tinder-boxes of this portion of town, a disastrous conflagration is only a question of time.

The best remedy for the evil is a city government, but until this can be procured some sort of present protection is indispensable.

April 6th, 1876

The Chinese are working ground in Diamond abandoned by white men.

April 14th, 1876

The *Alta California* is alarmed by the fact that for the next six months all the available room on the steamers and sailing vessels to arrive within that time has been secured for the importation of low-caste Chinese. In Montana we have none but the very highest caste Celestials—all of them at the top of the ladder, so to speak.

April 15th, 1876

Two Chinese companies will work in Emigrant gulch this season.

April 22nd, 1876

The Chinese companies in “Emigrant” are fairly at work and finding good pay.

April 23rd, 1876

The Chinese miners are hard at work on Last Chance, and already taking out considerable quantities of gold dust.

April 26th, 1876

The Deer Lodge coach yesterday morning carried away fifteen Chinese passengers.

April 29th, 1876

A Chinaman, while ground sluicing for Lee Montgomery, in Deer Lodge county, was caved on by a bank thirty feet high, but was rescued alive.

May 2nd, 1876

The Heathen Chinese are raking any quantity of gold dust out of Last Chance.

May 5th, 1876

Celestial Shortcoming

A New Way to Effect a Settlement with the Heathen Chinee

A Chinaman engaged with a mechanic to pay fifty dollars for the erection of a small frame house on Water street. The carpenter, being a rustler, had the house nearly completed at the end of two days, whereupon the Chinaman repented of his bargain and intimated that he would not pay more than twenty-five dollars for the work. The carpenter locked the door and put the key in his pocket, and for a few days after came occasionally to see the house and observe what move the Chinaman proposed to make. John made no manifestation, however. The knight of the saw, becoming impatient, procured a large sheet of newspaper and wrote large letters “This house will be sold tomorrow,” put it on the door of the house, and from a distance watched the movements of the Chinaman who saw the paper without exhibiting any uneasiness. The case was becoming embarrassing. On the morrow the carpenter very deliberately walked to the

house and attached a long pole to it holding about five yards of red flannel at the end of it, and afterwards went to a neighboring saloon, invited a large crowd to the counter, where they took a smile, and he told them he was going to sell a Chinese house at auction, and they were wanted to bid on it. The crowd followed him, and the auctioneer commenced in a stentorian voice, which attracted the attention of the whole neighborhood, and in a moment the owner of the house was seen coming down the hill at racehorse speed, shouting and flourishing something in his hand, which, on arriving at the scene of the sale, proved to be a \$50 greenback. It is needless to say the auction was stopped, and the carpenter and his friends took another drink and laughed heartily at the success of the clever ruse.

May 9th, 1876

The Chinese diggings near French Bar are turning out well.

May 12th, 1876

A Meagher county Chinaman is reported to have picked up a \$23 nugget last week. A big thing for the Celestial.

May 23rd, 1876

A Chinese company has made a large purchase of ground from Shields & Kina, of Indiana gulch.

May 28th, 1876

Meagher County, May 27, 1876

Last Thursday a Chinaman, crossing at Stubbs' ferry with a team, met with an accident, which fortunately only involved the loss of some property. When in the middle of the Missouri the team backed out from the boat and precipitated the whole outfit into the river. The hind wheels became detached and the horses with the fore wheels made for the shore, which they reached in safety. The other part of the wagon, with the load of goods, were lost. It was particularly disastrous to the Chinaman as yesterday was one of their big holidays, and his wagon was loaded down with valuable goods for the occasion. It was a narrow escape for Mr. Stubbs, as the current is very swift at that point and it does not take much to swamp the boat during high water.

June 14th, 1876

Gold Dust

A Large Quantity in the Market

Within the last few days an unusual amount of gold dust has been disposed of at the banks. Yesterday over six thousand dollars worth was disposed of and an equal amount the day previous. The Chinese are disposing of a good deal of retort and Blackfoot and Upper Indian creek have made a large contribution.

June 30, 1876

The Chinese are talking about abandoning the Alder gulch placers.

July 7th, 1876

Several placer claims have been purchased by Chinese in Emigrant gulch.

July 12th, 1876

The Chinese companies are taking a good deal of gold out of Emigrant gulch.

July 12th, 1876

The Chinese are working a number of claims on Indian creek.

July 25th, 1876

Several Chinese Companies are working in the Basin gulch mines.

July 28th, 1876

On lower Last Chance, below the Chinese garden, may be seen some wild plants, bearing large white flowers rivaling in beauty and fragrance the choicest hot-house plants.

July 29th, 1876

A Cloud-Burst

Pikes Peak Gulch Flooded and Heavy Damage

....The Chinese on Wood's flat were drowned out.

July 30th, 1876

Yreka has a store, Brogan & Morse, two saloons, and a good hotel, kept by J.K. Wells, the popular caterer of food for the carnivorous bipeds of Elk, and who, by the way, is authorized to act as agent for the *Independent* in Yreka and vicinity. The China town is larger than the white burg.

August 2nd, 1876

Scarcity of Laborers

Good miners out of employment are scarce. In fact, a three days' search through Helena and vicinity resulted in the finding of but one man who was willing to work for four dollars a day. Even the Chinese are independent, and have no desire to engage in mining. A claim owner made a tour of Chinatown last Monday, and was unable to secure the services of a single Celestial. This shows that there is labor enough for all who are disposed to earn their bread by the sweat of their brows.

August 18th, 1876

At French, 34 white men and sundry Chinamen are mining. At Beef straight, J.E. Dickey is running Foster & Co.'s flume. Stone, Moore & Co. and McClurey & Co. are working on the head of German, and 150 Chinese miners make up the sum total of the population. The Chinese have almost taken full possession of German gulch.

August 27th, 1876

A man known as "Chinese Charley" is reported to have been robbed of \$1,000 on his way from French gulch the other day.

September 17th, 1876

The Chinese are “monarch of all they survey and they’re right there is none to dispute,” in Eustace gulch, Missoula Co.

September 24th, 1876

Even if the North Pole were discovered the discoverers would be followed in ten minutes by a Chinaman who could live on icicles at two cents a gross.

November 22nd, 1876

Daring Robbery

A correspondent writing from Bannack under date of 17th inst. says: Wa Chung, a Chinese miner from Horse Prairie, was robbed yesterday afternoon by two white men about four miles from here. He was riding in a lumber wagon and had fourteen ounces of gold dust and one five dollar greenback of which they robbed him. The Chinaman says that one of the fellows held a cocked pistol at him while the other searched him. There is no clue as to who the robbers are.

December 8th, 1876

An Iowa judge has decided that a man may legally kiss the hired girl if he can swear he thought it was his wife—but if she finds out “his wife may lawfully shoot him on the spot.” All of which young men contemplating marriage would do well to consider, inasmuch as, although there are few hired girls in Montana, the rule, it is believed, can be made to apply to Chinamen. No man is, therefore, safe who kisses the Chinaman, “maid of all work.”

May 26th, 1877

Freight Shipments

The Following freighters have finished loading at the forwarding house of Fred J. Kiesel & Co.: Henry Head, with 7,136 pounds, for W.A. Clarke, Butte, and Kung Chung Lung, Deer Lodge.

June 19th, 1877

Freight Shipments

The following are the recent freight shipments from the forwarding house of Fred J. Kiesel & Co.: John Wyatt, with 6,080 pounds for Kung Chung Lunch, and Frank Primont, Deer Lodge; Hope Mining Company, Philipsburg. *Corinne Record*

July 6th, 1877

A Chinawoman charged with malicious mischief—breaking in the window of a neighbor’s house and lacerating the arm of the occupant—was assessed one dollar and costs for her share of the amusement. Rather costly sport, as the total amount footed up \$106.15.

July 19th, 1877

A few claims are running up Little Bear and tributaries, but on the Elk side of the mountains but one man, John Lawrence, is left. They have not been killed by the Indians, but have sold out to Chinamen.

July 24th, 1877

Yep Sam

Tracked to his Hole and Arrested by Officer Quirk

The alarm of fire in Chinatown last Sunday evening was caused by the breaking of a burning oil lamp by a Chinaman called Yep Sam, who had been quarreling with some of the inmates of the house where it happened. Fortunately but little damage was done. Yesterday a warrant was issued for Yep Sam's arrest and placed in the hands of Mr. John Quirk; who obtained some clue to where he had fled. He tracked him to Nelson gulch but on arriving there found that he had gone. Mr. Quirk prospected the neighborhood for a considerable time, and was about giving up the job when he suddenly changed his mind, and on examining an underground flume thought he discovered a man in the darkness. Entering on all fours he groped his way along, and when about fifty feet from the entrance he had the satisfaction of meeting the Chinaman. Taking out his revolver he soon persuaded him out of his hole and brought him to town, where he lodged him in jail to await his trial, which will take place to-day before Judge Hedges.

Mr. Quirk deserves great credit for the promptness and dexterity he displayed in the pursuit and arrest of this Chinaman.

September 8th, 1877

Joseph Stone, of Blackfoot, was severely injured last Friday night by a Chinaman caving a bank on him while mining for Mr. Ryerson in the old Kimerly claim below town.

October 13th, 1877

Freight Shipments

Following are the recent freight shipments from the forwarding house of Fred J. Kiesel & Co.: Robert Fisher, with 16,130 pounds for Geo. Dart, Dempsey & Co., H.S. Pond and Wah Chung Lung, Bannack. *Corinne Record*

October 23rd, 1877

Daring Desperadoes

They Shoot a Couple of Chinamen

And Attempt to Perforate Some White Men

From the *Madisonian*, Oct. 20th.

The usual quiet of this community was rudely disturbed on Tuesday evening last by the information that two or three Chinamen at Junction had been shot by two Black Hillers, and that the latter were engaged in indiscriminately shooting at white men and Chinamen down the gulch. A warrant for the arrest of the desperadoes was at once issued and placed in the hands of Sheriff Edsall, who, with deputies Carruthers and Mitchell, went to put it in execution. It appears that the men, on their arrival at Junction went into the store of Z. Mousseau and demanded whisky, which was denied them by Mr. Mousseau, when one of them stepped behind the counter and drawing a revolver threatened to shoot him unless their demands were complied with. Mr. Mousseau still persisted, however, in refusing to give them any liquor, and after using a good deal of violent and threatening language, without proceeding to actual violence, the men left and mounting their horses, rode down the gulch. They had not proceeded far when they saw a Chinaman, and opened fire on him with a revolver, without hitting him; but another Chinaman who came

out to see what was the matter, received a bullet wound in the head, the ball striking just behind the ear and glancing round the base of the skull. Some of the residents of Junction armed themselves and went to the scene of the affray, and a lively fire was kept up for a short time, but, happily, none of the citizens were hit, though one of the China houses in the vicinity was riddled with bullets. The citizens, having but little ammunition with them, retire to refit, and the desperadoes rode on down the gulch. During the conflict one of the Chinamen was shot, it is believed fatally. When the citizens returned to Junction they were met by Sheriff Edsall and his deputies and a party at once went in pursuit. On arriving at the place where the fight occurred the pursuers separated, Messrs. Carruthers and Mitchell going into the hills, and Sheriff Edsall, accompanied by Walter Wynne and George Bottcher, following ghte course of the gulch. The former had not proceeded far when they saw a horse, and concluded that it belonged to one of the men they were in search of, but, as there was no place to tie their own horses, Mitchell took them back to the gulch while Carruthers kept watch. On returning, Mitchell fell in with John Wynne and several others and going up the hill, one of them was discovered lying concealed in the shadow and arrested.

The party with the sheriff rode to the mouth of the gulch without seeing any traces of their men, and then Edsall left Wynne and Bottcher—both of whom are youths, the latter not more than fourteen years old—to watch the road while he took a ride through the hills. Before leaving he instructed them if they saw anything of the men, to fire a shot as a signal to him. He had not been gone very long when one of the men came down the road carrying a revolver in his hand, but the boys saw him first, and Wynne leveled his shotgun upon him and commanded him to halt, while Bottcher fired his rifle in the air as a signal to the officer, and then stepping to the side of Wynne, took the latter's revolver from its scabbard and also drew a bead on the man. Sheriff Edsall was about a mile and a half distant when the shot was fired, and rode with all haste to where he had left the boys, whom he found covering the man with a shotgun and pistol, and the latter standing with his revolver in his right hand and resting upon his left arm. Edsall called upon him to “throw up his hands,” which he at first declined doing, but when the sheriff suggested a speedy passage to the nether regions as a result of his obstinacy, he laid down the weapon and surrendered. During the time the boys had the desperado covered they behaved with veteran-like coolness, Bottcher frequently admonishing the prisoner that the slightest motion on his part would be followed by shooting, and said he, alluding to the pistol, “it's a self cocker and goes off mighty easy.” The prisoners were brought to town and lodged in the county jail.

One of the Chinamen who was shot lies in a precarious condition, and it is doubtful if he will recover. The wound of the other is not considered serious.

The prisoners gave their names as William Sweeney and Daniel Russell, and are believed to have come from the Black Hills. It is also thought that they are outlaws who have committed some offense against the law in the lower country, as one of them was particularly anxious to know if X. Beidler was one of the arresting party, and when one of his captors said that he was he expressed the wish that he would be leniently dealt with.

November 1st, 1877

A Chinaman's Theology.

At the trial of the two tramps for stealing a watch from a Chinaman at Griswold's ranch, in Boulder valley, some time ago, before a jury of neighbors hastily summoned, Hong, the Chinaman, was very profane in giving his evidence, so much so, indeed, that one of the jurors rebuked him, telling him he must not swear so—must not take the name of God in vain. "God, God," said Hong, "Chinaman no sabe God; heap sabe God damn." After the verdict was rendered requiring Hong to administer twenty lashes to each of the tramps, Hong declined to do it, saying: "Chinaman no whip Melican man; Chinaman whip Melican man, by'm by Melican man catche Chinaman and give him all same hell."

November 13th, 1877

Chinese Affray

A Chinaman was arrested yesterday for assaulting another Celestial in the Chinese quarters, Sunday night. We failed to learn the particulars, but understand the assaulted party has a dangerous wound in the head.

November 29th, 1877

The Chinaman arrested last Tuesday night for stealing a pair of gum boots from Greenhood, Bohm & Co. had a hearing before Judge Hedges yesterday and was sentenced to two months in the county jail.

January 5th, 1878

List of Delinquent Taxes

Territory of Montana

Lung Chong

1876; Lot 5, block 6....Total Tax Owed: \$17.10

1877; Lot 5, block 6....Total Tax Owed: \$20.00

July 11th, 1878

The license of \$400 per quarter is paid by the Chinese of Nevada for gambling. As they will gamble it might be a good source of revenue to Montana to make them pay a like tax.

August 8th, 1878

Steamer Helena

List of Passengers and Manifest

Deer Lodge.—Ken, Chung, Lung & Co. 98 [packages]

September 16th, 1880

Montana Mines

Chinese Miners on Silver Creek

As the coach from Helena rumbled along the road towards Belmont and hugged the base of the mountain, about halfway between Silver City and Vestel, to the gulch on the left could be seen the dams built by half a dozen Chinamen, who are placer mining here and day by day growing rich on the very ground once worked and abandoned by the earlier white adventurers. Around a turn in the road and the once-deserted cabin which now serves as the homely but comfortable habitation of the industrious celestials was in sight.

A few rods further and the pigtailed could be seen hard at work; some of them digging the pay dirt and throwing it up with all the gusto and grit of an Irish pavy, while others were preparing the sluice-boxes or washing the sand. Their features and complexions gave undoubted evidence of their nationality; but besides these traits, there was nothing to give the first clue to their birth-place. They were dressed after the manner of the common miner, with heavy top boots, suits of California cloth, and their pigtailed, which they always religiously preserve, were tucked under their broad slouch hats. An attempt to draw them into conversation was a failure. The celestial is thoroughly uncommunicative, and as secretive as a magpie. They would not answer any questions concerning their methods of working, their manner of living or the profits which they realize from their washings. They evidently looked upon their interlocutor as a tax collector, and the only reply the wary foreigners would vouchsafe to the numerous interrogations was, "Me no savey." That they did "savey" there is not doubt, but they are too cunning to give their business away.

Half a mile further and coach rattled through "Marysville," the name now given to the site of the bonanza mine, "Drum Lummon," Tom Cruse's grand discovery.

October 14th, 1880

Quizzing the Pigtailed

The Evils of Opium Smoking Practiced in Chinatown

Americans Becoming Slaves to the Accursed Practice, "Allee Samee Chinaman"

It is not probable that the citizens of Helena have the faintest idea of the customs and habits of the hundred and fifty celestials who have their humble homes in Oro Fino Gulch, popularly denominated Chinatown. Last evening an Independent reporter, piloted by three of the prison officials of the county, made a tour of investigation through the interesting locality. In general it may be stated that some of the Chinamen have adopted the dress and business customs of the Americans, but in general they adhere with religious fervor to the old traditional customs of the Celestial Empire. The pigtailed are preserved, though usually coiled about the head or tucked under their hats, and in their garb and general mode of life they are yet truly Chinese.

A few have made small fortunes in legitimate business enterprises, but most of them follow the easy-going lazy life of the land which gave them birth. Two or three of the prominent merchants count their wealth at from \$50,000 to \$100,000. In this connection may be mentioned the Chinese placer miners, who are growing rich in the Silver creek gulch.

Chinatown does not boast of a single two story building. The habitations are uniformly of wood and one story high.

Over the doors of the business houses are signs in the strange Chinese characters, and occasionally the sign is supplement by some symbolic piece of Chinese fancy work. Their dress, food and house furnishings are of the plainest sort and they are thus able to live plainly and comfortably, though in no case luxuriously, upon the sums spent by the average American for cigars and liquors. There are very few women in Chinatown. There may be in all a dozen prostitutes of which mention will be made later.

Chinatown boasts of no saloons or tobacco stores. As a rule they do not drink spirituous liquors, but instead devote themselves almost without exception to opium smoking. Nearly every house and public place has its bunks where the lamp burns all

day and the inmates and visitors smoke their pipes and close their eyes in a profound slumber during which they are visited by the happiest of visions. During these dreams all that is most beautiful or most pleasing to the different senses crowds upon their imaginations until they lose themselves in a general ecstasy of pleasure. This habit corresponds somewhat to the American customs of smoking and drinking, with the marked difference that the ecstatic visions peculiar to opium smoking are generally wanting to the tobacco smoker or drinker.

Let us enter one of the “dens.” The door admits you to a main front room, generally lighted by two windows, one at either side of the entrance. There is generally no other windows in the buildings, except sometimes there is one in the rear of the building. From the front room running clear to the rear is a hall or passageway lined on either side by small rooms not unlike staterooms on steamers—except in the meagerness and plainness of their appointments—and each containing two or four bunks like the berths in an ocean vessel. On the bottom of each berth is a clean matting and along the back runs a common pillow. Rather an uninviting couch for a comfortable snooze, but the Chinamen pass most of their time upon these pallets, and by the magic aid of their opium pipes, not only forget their present cares, but are transported to scenes of transcendent loveliness, which would not make them exchange their humble lot for the throne of a king or the crown of an emperor. The lamp over which the pipes are lighted stands in the middle of the berth and the smoker curls up at one end.

If this embodied the whole history of opium smoking, as practiced in our midst, there would be little to deprecate and censure. But the habitual smoking of opium is attended with the most disastrous effects to the mental and physical constitutions of the victims. The habit, when long indulged in, makes the smoker weak and nervous, and if too long practiced, ends in reducing him to idiocy and imbecility. This fact is well-known to the Chinese themselves, who were anxious to learn from the visitors any means of curing themselves of the baneful thralldom to a habit which they know undermines their physical health and deadens their intellectual faculties. So strong is this feeling, that invariably a Chinaman unless caught in the very act, denies that he is a slave of the pipe. At one of the Chinese stores opium is sold, and standing beside it on the shelves are phials of pill prepared by an English doctor residing in Shanghai, for the purpose of curing the habit. Opium is retailed at this store at from \$15 to \$17 per pound. There has recently been an increase in the price, opium having been sold formerly for about \$14 per pound.

One Chinaman, a gambler, who has recently come from Blackfoot, was suffering from a distressing cough and breathed heavily as though suffering from asthma. His face was pale and emaciated. He said that he was a former victim of opium, and has contracted the cough during the past week while attempting to stop the habit of smoking. Nor is this all. Some of the white women of questionable character are beginning to practice the evil habit, and other respectable white people occasionally visit the dens and are in a fair way to become slaves to the terrible habit.

Nearly every city, where the Chinese congregate to any number finds it necessary to suppress the opium joints, and it is high time the growing evil were checked here. News comes from Denver, Colorado, of the death of young man of respectable parentage from the habit practiced in the “joints” in that city.

Chinatown has fully a dozen gambling houses and places of ill fame which are thronged nightly by the gambler and questionable characters. But in this respect they only copy after many of their betters—American citizens—who set them the example.

October 14th, 1880

There is no law prohibiting opium joints in Helena. The owner of one of the principal dens which is patronized by Americans stated last evening to the authorities his willingness to refuse such patronage as soon as any law is passed prohibiting it.

October 14th, 1880

The Chinese gamblers play only the simple game of chance, “odd and even.” In Chinatown will be seen any night crowds of celestials intent upon the game and betting from two bits to one hundred dollars.

January 25th, 1881

Yesterday a wood-hauler in front of Curtis & Booker’s store was approached by a Chinaman, who asked the price of his load. There was a scant cord on the wagon, although somewhat bulky in appearance, owing to being loosely piled. The wood man offered to take \$10 for the load, but John objected that it was “too muchee,” but agreed to pay “fourteen dollar.” The accommodating wood man consented with apparent reluctance to take this sum, and the money was paid—the Chinaman rejoicing in his bargain.

January 30th, 1881

A delegation from the Council visited Chinatown last evening to take in the New Year festivities.

January 30th, 1881

The Chinese are celebrating their New Year, and the popping of fire crackers can be heard in Chinatown at all hours of the day and night.

February 2nd, 1881

A Chinese Preacher

His Countrymen in Virginia City Give Him Rough Treatment.

The *Madisonian* of the 29th inst. says: “The Mongolian row between the society known as the ‘Chinese Freemasons’ and C.H. Han Bo (the Christian preacher) and his friends, assumed quite serious proportions last week. On Sunday, the ‘Freemasons’ made large purchases of knives, hatchets, pistols, and other weapons, and gave other unmistakable evidences being on the war-path extensively. So fierce was their attitude, and so evident was it that they were in dead earnest, that C.H. Han Bo came to the conclusion that he had better throw up the sponge and retire from the missionary field, and on Monday he had printed and distributed around town the following circular:

To the Public:

‘In consequence of the hostility manifested toward me by the members of the society of Chinese Freemasons of this city, I do not deem it advisable or safe for me to remain here longer, and hence I will take my departure within a few days. I wish to thank

the Christian people of this city for their kindness to me during my brief sojourn among them, and the active sympathy they have manifested in behalf of the cause I am endeavoring to represent.

For committing an assault upon me last Sunday, with knives, pistols, hatchets, etc. I have entered complaint in Judge Muffly's court against some of the parties, where an investigation will be had to-morrow (Jan. 25th), when all who wish to know the character of the people they permit to live in their midst, can learn something of it by attending the trial.

Very respectfully,

C.H. Han Bo.

Virginia City, M.T., Jan. 24, 1881

The hearing was set for Monday morning, before Judge Muffly, but was postponed on account of the illness of the judge. Whether C.H. Han Bo will adhere to his resolution to adopt discretion as the better part of valor, and leave the proselytizing of his countrymen to some one with more zeal, less aversion to being chopped into mincemeat and a stronger faith in invisible majorities, remains to be seen. It evident that the 'Freemasons' mean business; and they have, thus far, only been deterred from carrying out their threats against the preacher by timely hints from the whites that the consummation of their murderous designs would be followed by a repetition of the scenes enacted at Denver a short time ago, and a general demolition of the heathen community. We are informed that the number arrayed on the side of the preacher is nearly as great as that of their opponents."

February 8th, 1881

Under-Sheriff John T. Jefferis went to Deer Lodge county Sunday with an insane Chinaman for the Warm Springs Asylum.

March 2nd, 1881

Missoulian, Feb. 25th

Sheriff Kenney arrested at Frenchtown Wednesday and brought to this town Thursday a Chinaman charged with forgery, in that he took from the express office and signed the name of another Mongol to the receipt book for a package of opium belonging to another fellow.

March 8th, 1881

Two Chinese factions, of Virginia city, had a general fight on the 28th ult. Two Chinamen were killed and several wounded. The immediate cause of the row was a dispute over the right of dumping mining debris on the claim of one of the companies. Eleven celestials were arrested and are now in jail awaiting trial at the next term of the District Court in Madison county.

March 8th, 1881

The *Madisonian*, of the 5th inst., says: "As a sequel to the Chinese imbroglio, reported in another column, Sheriff Jefferis, of Lewis and Clarke county, arrived on Wednesday evening, bearing a warrant fo the arrest of C.H. Han Bo on a charge of grand larceny, said to have been committed at Helena in 1873. The accused denies having ever been in

Montana previous to his coming here two or three months ago, and claims to have resided in Portland, Oregon, ever since his arrival in this country from China, nine years ago. He carries first-class certificates of character, which, if genuine (and there seems to be no reason to dispute their authenticity) give plausibility to the general opinion that he is innocent, and that his arrest is part of a conspiracy to get him out of the way, so that he cannot act as interpreter in the trial of the parties to Monday's tragedy. Han Bo declares his ability to establish an alibi when his trial is had."

March 9th, 1881

Discharged

Preliminary Examinations of Han Bo

Han Bo, the Chinaman who has recently been conspicuous in Virginia city as a Christian preacher, had a preliminary examination before Probate Judge Daves, yesterday, upon the charge of stealing \$250 in gold coin and \$350 in currency from Ah Sing, in Helena, in 1873. Han Bo has been the object, recently, of a very bitter and determined persecution by the members of the secret Chinese order in Virginia city. His enemies were determined to get rid of him in some manner, and the facts seem to show that the Helena branch of the secret order was instructed to procure his removal to this city upon a criminal charge. A complaint charging him with the offense above mentioned was therefore made before Judge Davis, and last week Sheriff Jefferis went over to Virginia city, arrested Han Bo and brought him to Helena. At the examination yesterday, Ah Sing, the complaining witness, swore that in 1873 he deposited the sums named in Ung Hi's store in Helena, and then went with Ung Hi into a back room to take a smoke; that Han Bo was in the store at the time. That upon returning from their smoke "the money was gone and the Chinaman was gone." Ah Sing and three other Chinamen swore that they recognized Han Bo as a man who was in Helena in 1873; they were not acquainted with him, but had seen him several times. They had evidently been well trained, but still were not able to tell a probable story. Han Bo testified that he had never been in Helena until brought here the other day by the Sheriff; that he was being prosecuted for teaching the Chinese "the ways of the Lord according to the doctrines of the Methodist church"; that he had never seen any of the witnesses against him in this case prior to his present visit to Helena; that he arrived in America at Portland from China in 1873; that he first saw Ah Sing between 8 and 9 o'clock yesterday, when he (Ah Sing) came to the jail and said he was not prosecuting the case because there was any truth in the charges, but because he was compelled to do so by the instructions of the secret order. Another witness who had heard the conversation at the jail, confirmed Han Bo's statements. Han Bo also exhibited a number of high testimonials from well-known citizens of Portland and other places.

When the case was complete Judge Davis very properly and promptly held that there was no ground for detaining the prisoner, and ordered that he be discharged from custody.

Han Bo asked and was granted the privilege of remaining in jail last night, as he feared that he would be murdered if his countrymen could get at him.

March 13th, 1881

A Heathen Chinee

Brought to Grief by the Committee of Safety

The case of the Territory against the Chinese preacher, Han Bo, who was brought from Virginia City to Helena upon a false charge made against him under the direction of the Chinese secret order, familiarly known as “China Masons,” has caused no little indignation among our citizens. It was regarded outrageous that the taxpayers of this county should pay the expense of such trumped up and malicious litigation. It was ascertained that a prominent Chinese merchant in Butte, who holds the position of chief executive of the “China Masons” in Montana was the leading spirit in the prosecution of Han Bo. This chief had gone to Virginia City in the interest of his order, and not being able, for some reason, to manipulate his plans against the Chinese preacher in Virginia City, he sent orders by telegraph to one of his subordinates in Helena, the result of which was that a complaint was filed in the Probate Court here, charging Han Bo with stealing a certain sum of money in 1873. A warrant was issued, under the authority of which Sheriff Jefferis went to Virginia City, arrested Han Bo and brought him to Helena. The proof presented at the preliminary examination showed that the complaint was false in every particular, and that Han Bo had never been in Helena until brought here by the Sheriff. The prisoner was discharged and a large bill of costs was taxed up to the county. In the meantime the chief of the “China Masons” having followed his victim to Helena, was spotted by some of our citizens, who, on Friday, took him in charge. They gave him to understand the “true inwardness” of Han Bo’s prosecution was well known, and that our citizens were opposed to paying for such fun for the amusement of the “China Masons.” The chief having been in what was supposed to be a safe place, yielded and give his order for the amount of the costs, which ran up nearly \$300. The gentlemen went out to present the order for payment, leaving the Chinaman in a house securely locked. Upon their return they were surprised to find that, although the house was still locked, the “China Chief” was gone. Examination proved that the fellow had gone up—through the roof. He had managed in some unaccountable way to make his escape. It is still believed, however, that the order for the costs will be paid, and that the “China Masons” will not soon again try to use the machinery of our courts for the purpose of gratifying their spite against one of their nation who chances to be distasteful to them.

March 16th, 1881

It has been suggested that, in view of the late Chinese tragedy and the threats that are made of further violence, some of the leading men of Chinadom be arrested and bound over to make the men whom they control keep the peace. Gus Rivers, who teaches the Mongolian school, says threats to kill Han Bo if he stays here are constantly made, and he doubtless, knows whereof he speaks. White men, under such circumstances, would be promptly jailed or put under bond, and the Chinese should not be exempt from similar restrictions. It would, in all probability, be a great saving to the county if this was done.—*Madisonian*.

March 27th, 1881

Hoo Fii, A Chinaman, killed himself at Butte last Wednesday evening by taking about two ounces of opium. Bad luck in gambling is the cause assigned for the act.

April 10th, 1881

Found Dead

“A gray owl hooted to its mate in the woods, that a dead man lay in the road.” Intelligence reached Helena last evening that the body of a dead Chinaman had been found lying in the Mullan road about one mile from Silver City. Mr. George Cleveland, we understand, left Helena two or three days ago with several Chinamen employed by him to work in the mines. One of the men exhibited signs of lunacy and a short distance out of town broke away from the party and ran off with such speed that he could not be overtaken. It is supposed that he wandered around the country until he reached the point named, where, being exhausted, he fell and finally died. The body found is believed to be that of the crazy Chinaman and there are facts tending to show such to be the case. Coroner Steele left town about 8 o'clock last evening for the purpose of holding an inquest upon the body.

April 12th, 1881

On Saturday night Coroner Steele held an inquest upon the body of the Chinaman whose death was announced in Sunday's Independent. The body was found about one and a half miles the other side of Silver City, lying near the road. The Chinaman went out with Mr. George Cleveland to work in the mines at Virginia creek. He was found to be insane, and was started back to town in company with a white man and two Chinamen, from whom he escaped at Negus ranche, and his escort were unable to find him. His body was found by Mr. William Johns, on Saturday night, and the coroner was at once notified. After the inquest the body was brought to Helena and turned over to the Chinese friends of the deceased, who, we understand, will send the remains to China. Nothing was found to identify the deceased except a slip of paper upon which was plainly written “Qui Fong Qui, P.O. box 139 Helena, Montana.” The verdict of the coroner's jury was that the man “being demented, escaped from custody and froze to death.”

May 14th, 1881

The Chinese Must Go,

The *Miner*, of the 13th instant, says: “Some time since, about twenty Chinamen were engaged by one of Butte's mine owners to cut wood in the adjacent mountains at a dollar per cord. Selecting a rather secluded neck of the woods, they pitched their camp and went to work with visions of an immense fortune, the nucleus of which was to be the proceeds of their summer's work. But alas! for the vanity of human expectations. Bright and early yesterday morning some sixty or seventy wrathful wood choppers swooped down upon them, and, with a persuasiveness rarely equaled, argued the heathens into a belief that the mountains were not healthy for Chinamen who worked as cheap as a collar a cord. Any person desiring a cheap Chinaman will please call at Chinatown.”

May 20th, 1881

A love smitten Chinaman, of Junction City, suicided this week because his Indian wife came to the conclusion that her people, the Crows, were better adapted to her ways. The Chinaman deliberately planned the dire deed and telegraphed to some of his countrymen here that he intended to take his life. This is about the only thing on record where an

Indian has been beneficial to this country. California could probably utilize all the squaws of the Crow nation with great benefit to himself. *Yellowstone Journal*.

June 21st, 1881

The City Charter Question

Our twilight contemporary comes to the defense of the city authorities, and apologizes for the little that has been done. We are not disposed to indulge in harsh criticism, and our object has been accomplished in suggested what we conceive to be errors as well as the objects of our corporate government. The primary purpose of our city government is physical rather than moral reform—to improve and purify the city rather than to make business for a small army of officials by raids on Chinese and other parties for trivial offenses. Our neighbor thinks that Chinamen should not “be allowed to commit suicide by opium smoking.” Neither, then, should white men be allowed to ruin health by the immoderate use of whisky or tobacco, nor white women permitted to inure themselves and their posterity by tight lacing, dancing to excess, or indulging in similar follies. But if a city government undertakes to correct such private abuses it will find a large sized elephant on its hands, and be compelled to neglect other duties in which the general public are more vitally concerned. Opium is the national beverage of the Chinaman just as beer is of the German, wine of the Frenchman, and whisky of the American. Both England and America have competed for the opium trade of China. As long as the Chinaman indulges in his national beverage in his loft or in the back room of his shanty, throwing no temptations in the way of others, we might as well punish him for being a Chinaman as to harass him for the confirmed tastes and habits acquired in his native land.

June 22nd, 1881

Opium Smoking

The editorial writer of the *Herald*, who is also an officer of the city government, reads us another homily on the evils of opium smoking. We fear our neighbor has opium on the brain. It is true as we said that Americans have competed with English vessels in the Chinese opium trade and that opium might be called a national beverage of the Chinese. To these immaterial statements our neighbor chooses to dissent. The fact that the Chinese government is opposed to the general prevalence of this vice among the Chinese people, does not alter the fact that the vice is a national one. It seems that our neighbor would also prefer to be a confirmed inebriate to a confirmed opium smoker. That is a matter of taste. We should prefer neither the one nor the other. There is but one issue between us. We are opposed to the city government making business for its officials by raiding on the lofts of Chinatown for the purpose of searching out Chinese opium-smokers, and our neighbor seems to favor it. We would prohibit and punish the sale or the public use of opium by Chinese. We would take all necessary measures to protect our white population from the vice. But we believe that our city government was constituted for something better than a mere reformatory institution for Chinese opium-smokers. Besides, persecutions of such a character do no good. The confirmed Chinese opium smoker will go elsewhere if he cannot smoke in the loft of his Helena shanty. All laws recognize that a man’s house, however humble, is “his castle,” and that he has certain rights within its precincts which the public cannot invade. All laws recognize, too, the difference between private and public exhibitions of our vices. The man who gets drunk

publicly and lies on the street, is a proper subject for the calaboose. If, on the contrary, he gets drunk at home and goes to bed, the public has no concern with his case. The same principle should apply to the Chinese opium smoker. The issue between us is not as to the evils of opium smoking, but as to the extent to which the city authorities should go in searching out the victims of the vice. We would avoid oppression and persecution in all cases, even in the case of Chinamen, especially where no possible good can result except to put a few paltry dollars into the pockets of city officials.

July 15th, 1881

A Chinese Helen

A Tale of the Loves and Trials of Ah Quong and Ah Gim

A Bride Stolen from Her Husband in California is Recaptured by Him in Montana, and Again Stolen and Restolen by the Contending Claimants

The War of the Celestials over the Fair Bride Ends With a "Melican" Wedding.

Yesterday the editor of the Independent received a card of invitation to a Chinese wedding. The card was prepared after the most approved American style, and we were thereby notified that our presence was requested at the marriage of Ah Quong and Ah Gim, at the Court House. Wednesday afternoon at 3 o'clock.

Promptly at the hour named a goodly assemblage of some hundred and twenty-five prominent citizens of Helena gathered and the knot was securely tied "Melican" fashion by Judge Bateman, of our city. The groom is rather a superior looking specimen of the Mongolian race, with firmness, courage and intelligence strongly marked upon his massive features. The bride, Ah Gim, was handsomely dressed in elegant Chinese costume, and appeared both young and pretty. Her almond eyes glowed with a soft and tender light as she pronounced the vows that madder her the wife of Ah Quong. Many Celestials were also present at the ceremony, and there was quite a display of bridal presents, consisting of rings, bracelets, etc.,

The story of the loves of Ah Quong and Ah Gim but realized the truth of Shakespeare's words "The course of true love never does run smooth."

Far away among the blooming bowers and und under the tinted skies of the Flowery Kingdom, Ah Quong first met the soft-eyed Ah Gim. They wandered together in the first bloom of youth by the bright waters of the Hoant Ho, and love's young dream was born under the shadows of Eastern palms, and amid the sweet perfumes of that land of flowers. But alas for youthful dreams! When the young Ah Gim was barely fourteen years of age, she was captured by a strolling band of Tartars in one of her wanderings in the vicinity of her home. A bag was thrown over her head to smother her cries, and she was borne far away from the home of her childhood. Soon afterwards she was purchased by a rich Mongolian, and, after passing through several hands, was finally shipped with a cargo of human freight to the golden shores of the Pacific. Here she was owned by one of the wealthy Chinese companies. Soon, however, she found means of communicating with her old lover, Ah Quong, who lost no time in following her to California. Soon after her arrival they were married in San Francisco according to Chinese customs. Ah Quong obtained employment in a Chinese factory, and the young couple were once more happy in their mutual love. But Ah Gim had been bought with a price. Her purchasers were loth to surrender their fair prize, without a struggle, and shortly after her marriage with Ah Quong, she was ruthlessly torn from her home, in the absence of her husband, who

was engaged at the factory. She was sold to Quong Lee, a wealthy Chinaman from Montana for \$700 and at once shipped to this Territory.

When Ah Quong returned to his home at evening he found it desolate and deserted. Although suspecting that his wife had been kidnapped, he could obtain no clue to her whereabouts, until after some weeks a letter from Montana revealed to him the fact that she was held in this Territory, in a state of concubinage, or worse, that she occupied, reluctantly, a Chinese bawdy house, and that her charms were bartered for money by her owners. Swiftly did the young Ah Quong follow his bride to the frozen North. This, we understand, was about two years ago. He found her at Pioneer, and stole her from her owners. He removed her, we believe, to Butte, but sometime afterwards she was again captured by her former purchasers. For the past two years the struggle over the young Chinawoman, between Ah Quong and her purchasers, has been constant and unceasing. The Chinese divided into factions over the issue, as to who had the best claim to the woman. It became virtually a second Trojan war, and the fair Ah Gim was the Helen for which the Mongolian combatants contended. During the past two years she has been stole and restolen some three or four times.

But a crisis was reached a few weeks ago. Ah Gim was found by her lord in a Helena bawdy house, from which he stole her, and the fugitives fled to Bozeman, hoping to find peace and safety in that quiet little city on the frontier. But the detectives of the ruthless Quong Lee, and his powerful Agents, E. Wan & Co., soon traced them to their hiding place. After midnight they surrounded the cabin of Ah Quong, and, forcing an entrance, tore his struggling bride from his arms. For days the distracted Ah Quong searched amid the surrounding hills and dales of Bozeman for his missing wife. He called aloud her name, but the silent mountains gave back no answer but the echo of his voice. At last he hired the constable of Bozeman to assist him in his search, and after several days Ah Gim was found concealed at a farm house near that city. Her captors had at first hidden her in the brush, where they kept her for four days and nights. Her hands still bear the marks of scratches received during this enforced concealment.

But hardly had Ah Quong recovered his lost wife before he and his spouse were lodged in the Bozeman jail on a charge of larceny preferred by their tormentor, Quong Lee. A preliminary examination failed to sustain the charge, and a nulle was entered by Mr. Armstrong, district attorney.

But in the very moment of victory, another bolt was launched by the indefatigable Quong Lee or his subordinates. Another writ was served as soon as the larceny charge was dismissed, and this time it was a warrant for the arrest of Ah Gim alone, issued by Judge Davis of Helena, on the charge of obtaining money under false pretenses.

Ah Gim was brought to Helena a day or two ago by Under Sheriff John T. Jefferis, and placed in our county jail, but was released on her own recognizance, prior to the trial, which, we believe, is fixed for Friday next. She preferred, however, to remain in jail for fear of kidnapping, and was yesterday duly married at the court house to Ah Quong, according to our law, in order to secure, as far as possible, legal protection against her persecutors.

Such is the story of Ah Quong and Ah Gim, as related to us by a Mongolian friend of the parties, and others who are familiar with the facts. That such things should be enacted in the very metropolis of Montana, without the knowledge of our citizens,

sadly illustrates the truth of the adage that one half the world knows nothing of how the other half is living.

July 31st, 1881

A Frenchman, using a heavy bludgeon, knocked down a Chinaman and bruised him considerably, yesterday, under circumstances that ought to be investigated.

September 15th, 1881

The denizens of Chinatown are following the example of Main street by pulling down the wooden awnings in front of their “shebangs.”

September 21st, 1881

A novelty in Sabbath school classes is a class of seven Chinamen at the Methodist Episcopal Sabbath school. The celestials are not very bright pupils on account of their very vague idea of the Christian religion and their lack of knowledge of the English language. But they seem very anxious to learn about the “Melican man’s Josh”—which is Chinese for God.

September 24th, 1881

Celestial Citizens

Their Number, Pursuits and Pastimes—Who Their Wealthy Men Are and How They Got It.

For the purpose of furnishing our readers with a description of what is going on the Oriental suburb of Helena (commonly called Chinatown) an Independent reporter, with note-book in hand, yesterday entered the odorous confines of the Celestial city and passing into a door over which hung a sign with some drunken looking character painted on it, looking very much like a tree standing on its head, the reporter found himself in a dingy little store room around which several Chinaman were lounging and conversing in their own peculiarly mellow melodious language, which much resemble one warbling of some kind of an animal that does not talk English. The reporter did not join the conversation. Presently another Chinaman, evidently the proprietor, entered the room from a dark sort of a den connected with the shop by a hole in the wall which answered for a door, and to him the reporter addressed himself:

“Hello, John.”

“Hello! What you want?” was the reply.

“I want to find out how many Chinamen there are in Chinatown, what you fellows all do and all about you.”

“What you want? You tlax man?” asked John suspiciously.

“No; I’m a reporter. You savvy reporter?”

“You leporter? D—m! me no likee leporter. What for you leporter?”

“No, John you don’t understand. What I want is to know how many Chinamen live here and all about them. I want to print in the newspaper so that the ‘Melican people can read it. You savvy newspaper?”

“Oh, yes; me savvy newspaper—rappee clo’ in newspaper.”

After some further trouble the Celestial was made to understand that the reporter had no ulterior object in making his inquiries but was only looking for news. The

Chinaman's suspicions being allayed he communicated the following facts regarding Chinatown, using his choicest pigeon-English, with which, however, the reader shall not be vexed.

The Mongolian population of Chinatown (there are some white people living there) is about 250, of which number about twenty-five are Chinawoman. There are only two children in the town, little girls. The residents are merchants, boardinghouse keepers, mine owners, mine laborers, gamblers, laundrymen, servants and laborers. A few of the later are little better than common slaves, but the mystery of how they are so held was a subject of which the Chinaman fought shy.

There are four stores in the town, the character of goods kept for sale being much the same as in the ordinary general merchandise establishments of Helena, with the exception that rice and tea preponderate. There is one boardinghouse which seems to do a thriving business. The number of laundries is nine, these, however, being principally situated in Helena. The number of gambling houses vary with the seasons and the state of John's finances, there being, as the Chinaman expressed it, "sometime free, sometime slix." There are no opium dens as of old, or if there are, the fact is kept secret. But the odor of burnt opium which hangs about the town is pretty good evidence that although its use has been forbidden by the law, the heathen Chinees still burns the juice of the poppy in seclusion.

The town only boasts of two rich men, E. Wah and Tong Hi, who secured their wealth in merchandising and mining. Wah is worth about \$8,000 and Hi about \$5,000. The former of these men employ about forty coolie placer miners, and the latter fifty, their forces working up the gulch and out near Belmont. Such laborers are paid \$40 a month and their board, which latter would be called scant living by white people, as it consists principally of rice. Wah and Hi are both rich enough to make them very wealthy men in China, the ordinary sum which Chinamen desire to accumulate before returning home being from \$1,000 to \$2,000. But very few of them reach this amount, as they work for low wages and are not economical as generally reported, being addicted to expensive habits, such as opium smoking, gambling and other excesses. A mysterious game called "hong-chong" which is incomprehensible to anybody but a Chinaman, is their favorite gambling. In this there is a very great percentage in favor of the bank, which results in a continuous state of impecuniosity among the small gamblers who "buck" at "pong-chong." The general impression with the Chinese seems to be that if they do not spend their money liberally among their own people (especially among those who have opportunities for throwing employment in the way of the poorer ones) they cannot make money. So the "aristocrats" gobble up the earnings of the lower classes.

Taken all in all, Chinatown is very little different in many respects from civilized communities. All of the above being noted down, the reporter turned to his almondeyed informant and with a cordial "so long, John;" which called for a responsive "so longee" took his departure.

September 28th, 1881

John Chinaman seems to forget that opium smoking is prohibited by law. Several of them are in durance vile for infringement of the law and will be tried to-day.

October 4th, 1881

Too Much Opium

John Dunn Found Dead in Front of a Jefferson City Opium-Den.

From David Smith we learn that a man named John Dunn was found dead Saturday morning in front of a Chinese washhouse in Jefferson City where opium smoking was indulged in. The body was on the walk, in a sitting position and leaning up against the front of the house. The head was bent forward between the knees and blood had been running out of the nose. The dead man's face was blue with the blood which had settled in it. At an inquest held Saturday the keepers of the Chinese house admitted that Dunn had smoked two pipes of opium in the house the night before. It is surmised that his was only a part of the truth and that the dead man had become thoroughly benumbed by the drug, and had been carried out doors by the Chinamen and left in the position found; further, that he died by strangulation, caused by his head falling forward and his collar pressing against his windpipe and shutting off his wind.

Dunn had been in Jefferson City but a few days, during which time he had been on a spree. He had been working for a few days previous at the wood camp of Murphy, Neel & Co. above Wickes. He had formerly worked for Charles Wunderlich at Divide.

The whereabouts of his friends is not known, but it is believed he was from Texas. By some it is thought that he desired to make way with himself, as he had tried to purchase morphine the day before, but it was refused him.

Since the above was put in type we have learned from our Jefferson correspondent that Dunn was sandy complexioned, wore a moustache and was apparently about 40 years of age.

October 7th, 1881

Joe Wanman, a Chinese servant in the officers' quarters at Fort Shaw, committed suicide last Friday evening by shooting himself.

October 8th, 1881

At Eldorado bar, recently, Indians stole a Chinaman's revolver from his cabin, and when the celestial followed them to recover his property, they shot him through the leg.

October 9th, 1881

A Chinese Maiden

Who, Being a Slave, Runs Away From Her Mongolian Master and is Thereupon Arrested for Grand Larceny

An Orient maid named Kin Chue,

Was a slave of a knight of the cue;

Him she secretly left,

But was arrested for theft—

A proceeding most strange if it's true,

The above poetical introduction, although not properly belonging to a plain statement of fact, is sort of thrown in to cast a glamour of romance over the following account, which partakes somewhat of the romantic:

Kin Chue is a Chinese maiden who has been held in slavery by a Virginia City Chinaman, being, according to Mongolian usages, as much his property as his horse, dog, or any of his goods and chattels. But the fair damsel on becoming somewhat acquainted

with American customs and finding that slavery is not recognized among our institutions, resolved to profit by this feature of our laws. So a month ago she quietly took French leave and proceeded to Butte, where she expected to riot in the glorious sunlight of freedom. But her pleasures were short-lived. Her owner, knowing that according to law, he could not reclaim her as his slave, put his thinking cap on and hit upon the following plan to attain his end, which for shrewdness rivals the “Heathen Chinee” of Bret Harte’s most extravagant fancy: In the first place she was his property—that was certain. She was worth \$600; that was another fact. She had taken herself off without his knowledge or consent; therefore she had carried off six hundred dollars worth of his property without his knowledge or consent—in fact, feloniously; therefore, she had stolen from him and was amenable to the law. On arriving at this conclusion, he swore out a warrant of grand larceny against her. This was duly executed and the fair Kin Chue was captured last week in Butte and taken back to Virginia City, where she “Kin Chue” her rice in the future. Of course, it is not probably that the charge of grand larceny will be sustained against her, but as she is again in Virginia City, she will, as soon as discharged, be again taken in charge by her owner, who will doubtless prevent the recurrence of an opportunity for her escape. This is perhaps not altogether correct as to details, but is in the main a true statement according to our information. But it will naturally suggest the query: Does any treaty with China provide that the United States shall allow human beings to be held in slavery in any of our states or territories?

October 13th, 1881

The Chinese have been busy for the last day or two preparing food and drink for their dead. As dead Chinamen are only fed and refreshed once a year, it seems to us they would naturally consider it “a long time between drinks.”

October 14th, 1881

Two cooks, a Chinaman and a white man, had a rumpus with rolling pins on Monday, in a Meaderville boarding house, which resulted in the heathen getting his skull cracked and in being generally used up.

October 14th, 1881

Chinese Bones

Several Bags of Them Prepare for an Excursion and Enjoy a Grand Feast by Proxy

Yesterday was a great day in Chinatown. The Celestials’ were preparing to send ten of their defunct countrymen back to the Flowery Kingdom, having them already sacked for that purpose; for, be it understood, Chinamen who have been dead ten years, as had these, do not travel with much pomp. Their dry bones are enclosed in unpretending canvass bags and in charge of guards provided by the Chinese companies, these children of the sun return in a disintegrated condition to their own country. It seems the companies that ship Chinese to America contract to return their bones to their native land at some time, in case they should die while here. This, of course, only applies in the cases of Chinamen who come out under contract with the companies. The shipping of each skeleton costs about \$100.

The bones over which yesterday’s powwow was held are those of Celestials who have been buried here for ten years or more. In such cases the coffins or boxes in which

they have been interred are generally rotted away and it is not the easiest task in the world to gather the bones together. But the ingenious Chinese have adopted a plan by which they are absolutely certain of finding all the bones of their dead countrymen. They pan them out. They turn loose a lot of Chinese placer miners in the graves and these fellows go to work as if mining for gold, and by digging up the earth and panning it, every bone even the carpus, metacarpus and tarsus bones, which are very small, are found. They are then washed and spread out to dry, after which they are sacked for shipments as above related.

The residents of Chinatown yesterday prepared a rich banquet as a final send off for the dead, and it was supposed that their spirits hovered near and benefited by the grand spread. Among other things our reporter saw on the table was a hog roasted whole, which struck him as rather solid food for disembodied spirits. This opinion seemed to be shared by some of the Chinese themselves, for one spoken to on the subject said:

“Too much d—n foolee; bones no can eat.”

It seems, however, that the bones are not expected to eat, for a Chinese flesh and blood substitute is appointed for each of the dear departed, and these do the funeral honors and consume the provender. So if the dead men derived any benefit from the feast it must have been by sniffing in the delicious odors. The tables were set in the street and contained pork and mutton, roasted and raw; fruits, confectionery and other delicacies; dishes of stewed rats, mice, and sweets of a like nature, beside a number of mysterious dishes, the names of which it was impossible to learn. Wax tapers were burning at various places on the tables.

The Chinamen who did the honors were dressed in long mantles of Celestial blue, which symbolize that place of rest where dead Chinese are supposed to be at peace. The bones were stored in a room about a block from the scene of festivity, and to this the blue-robed mourners went, where they performed some incantations over the bags of bones, burning mysterious powders and acting in an altogether extraordinary manner. After this they filed back to the tables and into a building near by. The food was then carried in to them and doubtless they enjoyed the feast heartily, but as even a reporter has respect for men who have to do the eating for a lot of bags of bones, the enquiring eyes of journalism searched no farther.

October 23rd, 1881

A Chinaman named Oolong was arrested and fined \$35 in Butte, Thursday, for keeping an opium den. His articles of trade were confiscated.

October 27th, 1881

A Chinaman and woman were arrested in Butte Monday, on the charge of smoking opium, and being found guilty, there were fined \$30 a piece.

November 1st, 1881

The Chinese are very economical in their habits. Two of the Celestials who had been ordered to build brick chimneys on their shanties, passed up Main street Sunday morning with the necessary bricks in baskets swung over their shoulders, thus saving the expense of drayage.

November 6th, 1881

A female Chinese slave was recently sold in Butte for \$1,200 and delivered to the buyer, but her former owner concluded he ought to have received more money for her, and on being refused an additional sum tried to kill the slave with a hatchet. A painful wound was inflicted. The would-be murderer was arrested and jailed.

November 12th, 1881

The Butte Chinaman who hacked a China woman in the back with a hatchet has been held in the sum of \$1,200 to appear before the Grand Jury.

November 13th, 1881

A clerk in a Helena clothing house has shown himself more liberal in buying Confederate securities than even Eastern speculators. They only pay about one-half of one percent., but he pays full face value. A Chinaman who purchased about \$2 worth of goods of this gentleman, Friday evening, tendered a \$20 Confederate bill, which, although as big as a circus poster, was taken without hesitation and the proper amount of change returned. The clerk didn't discover his mistake until his attention was called to it by finding that the amount of the bad bill was charged to his account.

November 15th, 1881

A Chinese marriage, American fashion, was celebrated in Butte Sunday.

November 20th, 1881

The hotel proprietors of White Sulphur Springs will no longer employ Chinese cooks. Sensible people.

December 1st, 1881

The cry now is more hotel waiters and house servants—white ones. The Chinese are becoming unpopular every year.

December 3rd, 1881

We neglected to mention in our report of the school census yesterday that of those coming under the head of "Not of African Descent," there were only about a dozen all told of Chinese and half-breed children. A district included in the school census of 1880 was omitted this year, there having been a new district formed and a school house built near Kessler's brewery.

December 3rd, 1881

A Chinese Cyprian attempted suicide in Butte last Friday by chloroform. Her attempt was frustrated.

December 4th, 1881

It has been learned that the report of numerous cases of small-pox in the Chinese quarters at Butte was premature.

December 10th, 1881

The Chinese of Butte still practice opium smoking regardless of fines and imprisonment.

December 15th, 1881

A Chinaman who was employed as nurse in the Butte pest house, got tired of his position and attempted to run away. The pest house watchman overtook him and had to administer a sound thrashing before he could induce him to return. It was feared the Chinaman would spread the disease in Chinatown, and as nearly all the clothes of the city were washed there, that the small pox would thus be given a new impetus throughout Butte.

December 20th, 1881

A Chinaman was hacked in the head by another celestial at Butte Thursday night. He was not killed.

December 20th, 1881

Trouble Among Wood Choppers.

There is trouble among the wood-chopping fraternity in the vicinity of Butte—that is between the white men and Chinamen. It appears that a report was circulated to the effect that a band of over a hundred Chinamen were chopping wood near Blacktail gulch at seventy-five cents per cord. This was less than half the price charged by the whites. It was understood that on Saturday about one hundred wood-choppers near Butte banded together and started for the Chinese camp with the avowed purpose of “seeing it out.” It is not known whether or not a fight resulted; but the whites evidently decided that they wouldn’t stand any foolishness.

December 23rd, 1881

“Chance” Harris and another man, who led the white wood-choppers against the Chinese last week, were arrested. The main body of white men remained on the “battle-ground” and on Tuesday morning a constable with a posse of 22 men went out to capture the rioters, but with what success is not yet stated.

December 25th, 1881

Chance Harris, who led the wood chopper’s raid on the Chinese was re-arrested Wednesday and placed under \$500 bonds.

December 28th, 1881

Butte has a Chinese court which holds secret sessions and disposes of celestial cases.

December 30th, 1881

Officer Thom, Wednesday night captured a Chinese opium smoker named “Jim Lane,” but owing to the insufficiency of the evidence or other cause, the celestial was discharged after receiving a warning from the Police Judge to abstain from such pernicious practices in the future. This was the second time “Jim” has been up for the same offense.

January 8th, 1882

The miners of Butte are in favor of giving the Chinese of that burg the “grand bounce.”

January 10th, 1882

Butte Budget

Activity in Real Estate and Mining—The Chinese Question

Butte, January 8, 1882

To the Editor of the Independent

The usual quiet that reigns after holidays is observable upon the thoroughfares of Butte. The streets are less crowded, footsteps less hurrying, while the unmusical cry of Cheap John is for the nonce silenced. But the hills are alive with miners and the surface fairly covered with mechanics, teams, wood-cutters and haulers. Nor does the depression in mining stock affect mining enterprises nor real estate in the least. Many have prophesied a falling off in prices; but the comparatively few sales effected within the past few days do not justify the prediction...

The ever-agitated Chinese question is again up in this camp, and from present indications is destined to occupy the courts for some time to come. All agree that they are a nuisance that we should be happy to be well rid of, but just how that is to be accomplished under the present treaty stipulations no fellow can study out. That they have a local government in our midst is asserted, and for all offenses, embracing disobedience to its courts' mandates or for contempt, the penalty is death upon the first favorable opportunity.

A complaint embracing these facts has been lodged against several well-to-do Chinamen and an examination will be held on Tuesday morning in the Probate Court.

January 11th, 1882

Another heathen was taken in by a policeman last night for smoking opium. If the Chinese can't be made to go, the opium must.

January 12th, 1882

The Chinaman who was arrested Tuesday night for smoking opium was yesterday tried and convicted in the Police Court. He was not able to pay his fine and was sent to jail.

January 13th, 1882

A Chinaman was yesterday arraigned in the Police Court, charged with disturbing the peace by breaking down the door of a Chinawoman's house in the Celestial suburb of Helena. As the evidence was not sufficient to establish his guilt he was discharged.

January 14th, 1882

Pardoned

John Collins, convicted of murder in the second degree at the September term of the District Court in 1873, in Deer Lodge county, and sentenced to imprisonment for life, was pardoned by the Governor on the 9th inst. The pardon was requested by Judge Knowles and the District Attorney, six of the jurors that tried the case—the only jurors now living in the Territory—Dr. A.H. Michell, the present Warden of the prison, two of the ex-Wardens and nearly 200 citizens of Deer Lodge county.

The crime was hanging a Chinaman at Rocker on the 4th of July, 1873. Another person was connected with the crime and escaped arrest. Collins was under the influence

of liquor and claims to have no knowledge of the transaction. He was pardoned upon the condition that he would forever abstain from the use of intoxicating liquors. He is a sailor and left at once for San Francisco, where he will take a vessel and go to sea. This is the first pardon that was ever granted in Montana where a person was sentenced for life.

January 25th, 1882

On Monday a defunct Celestial of Chinatown was deposited in the bone-bleaching ground until such time as the unperishable part of his frame shall be in proper condition for shipment to the Flowery Kingdom. About fifty of the dead Chinaman's countrymen and countrywomen followed the remains to the grave. A portion of the obsequies consisted in drinking about five gallons of ardent spirits, and by the time that was accomplished the mourners were in a happy frame of mind. The funeral was one of the pleasantest affairs of the season.

January 25th, 1882

On Pen D'Oreille

In regard to what is being done at the eastern terminus of the Western Division of the Northern Pacific, a correspondent of the Cheney Tribune, writing from the scene of operations on Lake Pen d'Oreille, says: "Ventnor is depot for distributing supplies of all kinds by the steamer "Villard."...

The graders are located from Sandy Point to Pack river, a distance of twelve or fifteen miles from Ventnor. There are 1,500 white men on the work and twice as many Chinese. Common laborers get \$2.25 per day, Chinese half as much.

January 26th, 1882

A Chinese row at Bozeman last Saturday night resulted in the death of one of the participants.

January 28th, 1882

Murder of Sin Yee.

Under the above caption the Gallatin *News* of January 25 says: Last Saturday evening about nine o'clock a pistol shot was heard in a Chinese wash house on Main street, owned by Hop Kee. Upon entering, an old Chinaman, named Sin Yee, was found lying dead upon the floor, with a bullet hole in his breast, in the region of the heart. In the hub-bub and confusion which invariably follow such affairs, it was impossible to learn anything about it, more than that a Chinaman by the name of Lee Moon had some trouble with the old man late in the afternoon of the same day about money affairs, and that the old man had threatened to kill him; and as Lee Moon could not be found, it was supposed that they had met and renewed the quarrel, and that it ended by Lee Moon killing the old man in the manner above stated. It was at first supposed that Lee Moon had fled, but it was afterward learned that he had only sought refuge at the residence of S.W. Cook, by whom he had at one time been employed as cook. Lee Moon claimed that all the Chinamen in town were greatly prejudiced against himself and one or two others because they belonged to a different company; that they took advantage of his trouble with Sin Yee and killed the old man for his money making it appear that he (Lee Moon) had done the deed.

The verdict of the coroner's jury fastens the crime upon Lee Moon, notwithstanding his statement to the contrary.

January 29th, 1882

A fire in New Chicago Friday evening resulted in the total destruction of McPhail's hotel and contents. Loss \$4,000; no insurance. The fire originated in a room occupied by the Chinese cook.

January 31st, 1882

A Butte Chinaman was stabbed, hatcheted and robbed of \$60 by one of his countrymen last Friday night. He was not dangerously hurt.

February 4th, 1882

Three more Chinese opium smokers have come to grief. They were corralled by Officer Jefferis and being brought before Judge Davis, were found guilty and fined. Not being able to pay their fines each received a fourteen day's sentence.

February 10th, 1882

The Chinese New Year will begin next Thursday, 16th inst., and last eight days.

February 17th, 1882

The Chinamen of Wickes applied to Mr. Starrett for permission to bring whisky into the camp for the celebration of their New Year, but were refused, as liquor is not allowed in the camp. The Chinese say: "No whisky, no New Years."

February 18th, 1882

The Chinese Idea

The Chinese idea of celebrating New Years is in many respects a novel one. They open their four-days' festivities with an imposing display of fire works, a thing in which the Chinese excel. Then comes a grand feast which lasts four days, to which everybody in general and the Devil in particular are invited. We mention the last named individually specially, as the feast is specially for his benefit. The Celestials think that by feeding him they appease his wrath toward them, a consummation with them devoutly to be wished. They hold the very sensible view that if they can make a friend of the Evil One they will be all right. They anticipate no trouble from God, as he is a good Being and consequently incapable of cruelty or wrong. So they waste no fire crackers or provender on Him, all their efforts being directed toward placing themselves on a pleasant footing with Satan. This seems a logical course, to say the least. During the four-day New Years feast everything from roast pork and stewed rats down to cabbage-leaf cigars and China whisky go free in Chinatown. They even hang Chinese money—which greatly resembles brass pants-buttons strung on long strings—outside their hose doors, so that the poor may help themselves. These pieces of brass money are worth about one-eighth of a cent each, and beggar etiquette prohibits them from taking more than one from each string. This is Chinese religion as explained to our reporter by an English-speaking Celestial, and is a simple and child-like style of religion. It only lasts four days, however, after the

expiration of which the poor are left to rustle for themselves and the Devil is thrown on his own resources for grub.

February 22nd, 1882

The present New Year of the Chinese is the beginning of the year Eight of the Celestial Calendar.

February 23rd, 1882

The woodchoppers who were arrested a few weeks ago for intimidating the Chinese, have not had their cases passed on yet by the grand jury.

February 26th, 1882

The Montana Chinese have not had such elaborate New Year's festivities this year as formerly.

March 8th, 1882

Butte Breezes

Among the cases disposed of was that of the one known as the "wood chopper's case," in which a number of white men headed by Chance L. Harris sought to prevent the employment of Chinese laborers in the timber. Legally Harris' action was known as unlawful interference. He was tried, found guilty, and sentenced to pay a fine of \$100 and costs—about \$160 in all. Although not an advocate of the employment of Chinese labor, it is evident that the verdict is a just one.

March 16th, 1882

Six overgrown boys who have been worrying a lower Main street laundryman at different times lately by throwing stones and snowballs at his wash house and his washer-men, began stoning the boss Tuesday evening. The Chinaman showed fight and all the boys but one—Sam Russell—ran. A short fight ensued, in which the Chinaman got his eye decorated, and in return he put a small wash house over his opponent's peeper. The difficulty terminated yesterday in the police court. Both the combatants appeared, and after an examination the case was dismissed with some sensible advice from the Judge concerning the throwing of stones and snowballs, and the evil of indulging too promiscuously in decorating the features of one's fellow-men.

March 18th, 1882

The reason why that Assinaboine Chinamen committed suicide last week is said to be that the father of the deceased had killed another Chinaman, and the son killed himself out of sympathy.

March 21st, 1882

A white man and a Chinawoman were made one in Butte last week.

March 22nd, 1882

Sam Yek, a Walkerville Laundryman, has mysteriously disappeared. So have numerous articles of clothing left with him to be laundried. This is the man whom the Nine Companies threatened, and it is thought possible that he has been made away with.

March 26th, 1882

The Chinese are being put to good service shoveling the mud from the streets of Helena.

April 21st, 1882

A Chinaman on the way from Deer Lodge to Butte, by wagon, died on the 17th inst. His comrades left him in the wagon all night for the fear of the evil spirit if they carried him into the house.

April 21st, 1882

There is one Americanized Chinaman in Montana. He came to the Territory a score of years ago, renounced the doctrines of the celestial God, Confucius, cut off his queue, and when he goes to heaven, says he intends to go by the way of the United States in preference to the route via the Flowery Garden.

May 11th, 1882

A Chinaman named Ah Kee, was brought into the city yesterday from Belmont by Sheriff Jefferis charged with smoking opium. He had a hearing before Judge Davis, and pleading guilty was fined \$5 with costs.

May 13th, 1882

Recently near Nevada City the managers of a mine determined to discharge their fifty-two Chinese workmen getting \$1.50 a day and employ in their places twenty-six white men at \$2.50 a day each. The result has proved the wisdom of the change, for with half the force of men an increased amount of work has been done. The fifty-two Chinamen kept only five stamps running, while the present force get out enough ore to keep ten stamps busy.

May 30th, 1882

A Chinaman named Ah Sun died in Butte last week. Death loves a shining mark.

May 31st, 1882

The owners of a Chinese wash-house at Miles City, when informed that they would be required to pay license, shut up shop and quit business.

June 6th, 1882

A Chinese saloon will begin business in Benton this week.

June 9th, 1882

A large number of Chinese are placer mining on Silver Bow Creek some five or six miles below Butte.

June 14th, 1882

Last night about eleven o'clock a house in China town was broken into and trunks opened and various valuable articles were stolen, including silks and jewelry. The thief, a Chinaman, was arrested and put in the calaboose to await a hearing in court.

June 14th, 1882

Butte Breezes

A Mix Chain Gang—Suicide—Purloining a Chinawoman

The past has been an uneventful week here, nothing of importance occurring. It was trying on the daily news gatherers, and if they fail how can one so humble and unpretentious as your correspondent hope to present a readable letter?

A chain-gang, minus the chains, were at work on the streets during the past week. It was a motley crew—one white man, a negro and two Chinamen. The latter were serving out a fine of \$20 and costs each for opium smoking. The gentleman of color seemed to feel keenly the disgrace of having to work in such company.

A female resident of Chinatown was purloined a few nights since. She was valued at \$500. Her sorrowing owner has realized the truth of Dennis Kearney's aphorism and is a convert to the belief that the "Chinese must go."

June 15th, 1882

The case of the Territory vs. Ah Sing was tried in the Police Court yesterday afternoon. He was charged with stealing several valuable articles from a Chinawoman and was found guilty and jailed to await trial at the next term of the District court.

June 22nd, 1882

Coroner's Inquest

Substance of the Testimony of Witnesses Before the Coroner's Jury in the Matter of the Death of John Hogle.

.....A Chinaman testified to having seen Shed with a pistol in his hand, after the shot was fired. He saw Hogle strike shed, and then heard the report of the pistol.

June 27th, 1882

The Northwestern is the name of a new restaurant just opened on lower Main street next to Blake's shop. Chinese cooks are not employed, the cooking being done by a white (woman) cook.

June 30th, 1882

Ah Too was fined \$25 and costs yesterday in the police court for assaulting a Chinawoman. Not having the wealth he went to jail for thirty days.

July 4th, 1882

The only hump-backed Chinaman in the United States is a resident of the Chinatown suburb of Helena.

July 4th, 1882

The Butte steam laundry has started up and the Chinese look disturbed.

July 13th, 1882

Officers Witten and Bashaw last night captured two Chinese opium-smokers in Chinatown and lodged them in jail.

July 16th, 1882

Inquest Over a Dead Chinaman

Coroner Steele was yesterday notified that an old Chinaman had been found dead in his cabin near Park City, and requesting him to come up and see about it. He summoned a jury, consisting of W.R. McComas, Jno. Bayliss, Benj. Paxon, John Herley, A.C. Williams, and F.A. Kuhn and proceeded to the cabin indicated. After hearing all the testimony which could be got at, having a bearing on the case, the jury returned a verdict that Tom (Chinaman) there lying dead, came to death by causes unknown to the jury.

This man had evidently been dead several days. He had been for two or three years engaged in placer mining on a small scale, and as nothing had been seen of him for several days his cabin was visited and he was found dead on the floor. The coroner found in the dead man's pocket a small amount of placer gold wrapped in a letter written in Chinese. The gold will be sold to pay the expenses attendant on the inquest. No marks of violence were found on the body and whether his death was due to old age or to another cause will never be known.

On making inquiries in Chinatown last evening concerning the old Chinaman we were informed that the deceased was at one time a rich man in his own country, but that he was concerned in a conspiracy against the emperor's life and himself and family condemned to death, and all his property confiscated. He managed, however, to escape from the prison where he was imprisoned and made his way to this country. Even in this country he was a marked man and suffered many wrongs at the hands of the six companies, his life being attempted several times. It is not altogether improbable that his death may have been brought about by their agency.

The body was delivered to the Chinese and will be disposed of by them.

July 18th, 1882

A man named Meagher, who had charge of a gang of Chinese workmen on the Northern Pacific, west of Missoula, in some way incurred their enmity a short time since and they murdered him. Some of the dead man's friends banded together determined on vengeance, and attacked the Chinese, killing six and wounding thirteen. The surviving Chinamen took the trail for Missoula.

July 22nd, 1882

A thievish Chinaman stole a small satchel from the St. Louis hotel yesterday afternoon and made his escape. Another Chinaman who was along with thief and could not run fast enough was arrested and lodged in jail.

July 27th, 1882

The Chinaman who was captured by the police Tuesday night and lodged in jail, was brought before Judge Smith yesterday on the charge of smoking opium and being found guilty was fined. Not having the cash with which to settle he was sent to jail for five

days. His opium smoking tools were confiscated and are to be sold for the benefit of the city.

July 30th, 1882

A Butte Chinaman is under arrest for stealing a valuable gold-watch from Col. S.A. Estes.

August 3rd, 1882

A heavy immigration of Chinese to this Territory is setting in.

August 4th, 1882

A Chinaman and an African had a fight in Benton the other day and the local press called it a war of races.

August 4th, 1882

Several carloads of Chinese goods for Montana have lately arrived at Corinne. They will be brought the rest of the way by team.

August 5th, 1882

Northern Pacific Construction

There are employed in the work of construction about 10,000 men, and the grading is well advanced along the entire line. About 4,000 men are at work in the Yellowstone valley and east of Missoula, and 4,000 Chinese and 1,500 white men are at work grading and laying track from the west along Clark's Fork. Probably 1,000 more men are engaged in furnishing ties and bridge timber, and in the two tunnels through the Belt range near Bozeman and the main range west of Helena. The work of construction is going forward with great energy along the entire line.

August 17th, 1882

Jas. Loyd (colored) had trouble with a Chinaman Tuesday evening, and decorated the heathen's mug. He tried to explain the matter to Judge Smith yesterday with a view to making it appear as a joke. The Judge was very much amused and fined him \$5 and costs. This James though was no joke. He paid up, however, and is again on the trail.

August 17th, 1882

Butte has fourteen "Melican" gambling houses and four Chinese.

August 23rd, 1882

A Chinese chore boy was caught stealing cigars from a Missoula saloon keeper last week and the proprietor beat him over the head with a bucket. The little heathen had been driven away from Fort Missoula on account of his thievish propensities.

September 3rd, 1882

Ah Song, a Chinaman, died of consumption last week at Deer Lodge

September 7th, 1882

The Chinese Masons celebrated their 300th anniversary last evening. Two hundred thousand firecrackers were consumed, after which the whole population got on a grand jamboree.

September 7th, 1882

Tim's wash house, on Clore street, which was burned down last winter, is to be rebuilt. A gang of Chinamen are at work clearing away the debris to prepare for the commencement of building.

September 12th, 1882

Missoula, Sept. 18

A Chinaman was murdered on the street yesterday morning. Cause, some dispute about cooking. The murderer has been caught and is safely lodged in jail.

September 16th, 1882

Last Tuesday night an unsuccessful attempt was made by a Chinaman and three whites from Virginia City to abduct one of the moon-eyed damsels of Butte's Chinese quarters.

September 16th, 1882

An incendiary set fire to a Chinese shanty in Chinatown yesterday morning at 4 o'clock, first pouring coal oil on the exterior of the concern to make the fire take hold rapidly. The blaze was discovered before it had gained much headway, and was extinguished before much damage was done.

October 8th, 1882

A Bozeman Chinaman was shot and killed yesterday morning.

October 10th, 1882

It appears that the Chinaman who was shot at Bozeman last Saturday was not fatally injured. A woman known by the name of Frankie had been robbed of some money and was in a great passion about it. The Chinaman happened in her way and she shot him. It is not stated whether he was suspected of committing the theft or not. The woman has been arrested.

October 17th, 1882

The Chinese wash house on Clore street which was burned last winter is being rebuilt. The new building will be of stone.

October 19th, 1882

Louis Gregory was arrested at Butte a few nights ago for attempting to rob a Chinaman who didn't have a cent.

October 26th, 1882

Ah Funk, a Chinaman, was yesterday tried in Police court on the charge of selling wood without having it measured. He was found guilty and assessed \$5 and costs.

November 24th, 1882

A Chinaman who died in Chinatown Wednesday was yesterday buried at the cemetery, the funeral being attended by about thirty Chinamen and three or four Chinawomen. The ceremonies are said to have been quite impressive.

December 2nd, 1882

The heaviest Helena real estate transaction of the year took place yesterday, R.S. Hale buying of Messrs. Walker and Fulton the piece of ground known as the Chinese garden, at the corner of lower Main and Lawrence streets. The price paid was \$19,500. The property has a frontage of 210 feet on Main, 190 feet on Gulch street, and 202 on Lawrence street—about an acre in all. The average length of the lot, which reaches from Main through to Gulch street, is about 275 feet, by about 200 feet wide. Mr. Hale does not design building on it for the present.

December 6th, 1882

George Conford, of Cedar creek, has been displaying a \$65 gold nugget in Missoula the past week. It was found in the Cedar creek diggings by a Chinaman.

December 8th, 1882

A Chinaman and a white man are partners in the laundry business at Benton.

December 20th, 1882

A tie cutter in O'Keefe canyon sent shirt containing \$180 to a Chinaman to be washed. He soon missed his money, however, and accused the Chinaman of stealing it. John denied it. The tie cutter got a gang of men to join him, and, putting a rope around the Chinaman's neck, they hoisted him in the air till his tongue protruded from his mouth. He was then lowered to the ground, and after a breathing spell told them he would give them \$80 of his own money, and, if they would let him go up to a China camp near by, he would borrow for them the other \$100. He was allowed to go, and did not return.

December 21st, 1882

A Dastardly Murder

"Last Sunday," says a northern Idaho exchange, "a dastardly murder was committed at Weeksville, Montana, which, for boldness and fiendishness, is ahead of anything we have ever heard. A Chinese herder named Larry Herne was found mortally injured in his cabin near Weeksville. He was last seen alive about 8 o'clock on Saturday night. When found Sunday morning Herne presented indeed a fearful spectacle. Lying in his bed, where the cowardly assassins had attacked him, with his head cut open by the blows of a hatchet, the brains protruding through the skull, and the latter mashed in by a stick of wood, was a sight which will never be forgotten by those present. Herne was not murdered for his money, but from that most cowardly of all desires—revenge. Evidently the murderers stole upon him when asleep and robbed him of his life. Herne had on his person \$284.50, a silver watch, and a fine pistol, all undisturbed, which proves conclusively that it was not for gain that he was brutally murdered. It is believed that Chinamen did the terrible deed, though as yet it is not definitely known. Deputy Sheriff Road, at Thompson river, took

charge of the effects. That the guilty wretches may be apprehended and meet the full penalty of the law is the sincere wish of all.”

December 28th, 1882

Marshal Majors is busily engaged collecting poll-tax of the Chinese. It is a hard deal, as in nine cases out of ten it is impossible to tell one Chinaman from another.

January 5th, 1883

Some years ago a Celestial settled in Beaverhead county. The Chinaman cut off his cue and commenced living after the fashion of Americans. He went into the stock-raising business and is now rich enough to pay \$185 in taxes.

January 6th, 1883

Helena Freights

The *New North-West* has the following list of Helena freights which have arrived at Deer Lodge:

Quin Kong Kee, 8 pkgs miscellaneous goods, wt, 590 lbs.

January 13th, 1883

A Chinaman was brought before Judge Sterling, yesterday, charged with breaking into Belle Cratton's house. It transpired that the Chinaman simply walked in at the door and when he came out a glass goblet followed him away.

January 24th, 1883

A Beaverhead county Chinaman who paid \$185 taxes the past year recently sold a band of cattle for \$9,000 and still owns a band of 3,000 sheep.

February 3rd, 1883

Chinese New Year will begin to day at noon. The Chinese have petitioned for the privilege of letting off the usual liberal quantity of fire crackers, a committee composed of Quang Hing and Yee Wau having waited on Acting-Mayor Curtis yesterday for that purpose. Permission was granted them to indulge in their usual loud celebration, on condition that they exercise great caution in guarding against fire. The city marshal has been advised of the permission granted.

February 6th, 1883

I heard a Chinaman tell Mr. John Fallon that he had paid \$125 for a hundred thousand fire crackers to celebrate the Chinese New Years. That would be a Celestial celebration for an American boy. The Chinaman, though, was half drunk and may have lied. If he told the truth I look to see your fire insurance rates materially advanced.

February 6th, 1883

Chinese New Year will begin today at noon. The Chinese have petitioned for the privilege of letting off the usual liberal quantity of fire crackers, a committee composed of Quang Hing and Yee Wau having waited on Acting-Mayor Curtis yesterday for that purpose. Permission was granted them to indulge in their usual loud celebration, on

condition that they exercise great caution in guarding against fire. The city marshal has been advised of the permission given.

February 7th, 1883

A Chinese boy at Sing Gee's wash-house at Deer Lodge broke his leg some ten days ago. A Chinese doctor tried to fix him up, but the boy not improving, a "Melican" physician was called in.

February 9th, 1883

A Billings Chinaman was burglarized a few days since and robbed. Three masked men entered his laundry, and after bandaging his eyes and pinioning him, they robbed the premises of \$275 in money, two watches and a revolver. The Chinese have since been practicing with pistols to show their expertness with that weapon to the great amusement of their "Melican" observers. There is no clue to the robbers, though their victim think he would recognize their voices if heard again.

February 8th, 1883

A number of ladies visited Chinatown yesterday to witness the Chinese New Year celebration. The Chinamen, however, have not yet begun their jubilee in good earnest. They will have a big time this afternoon and evening, as all preliminary idol worship, etc., will be finished by that time.

February 9th, 1883

The Chinese had a lovely racket yesterday. They burned up many a dollar's worth of fire-crackers.

February 14th, 1883

Last week three Chinamen from Horse Plains came to Missoula hunting two of their countrymen who are charged with murdering the paymaster and dangerously wounding a member of the Wing Sing company. It is supposed the paymaster (who was a Chinaman) was robbed of some \$3,000, but the pursuing party gave no information concerning the amount. The murder was committed on the 29th of January. The company offers a reward of \$400 for the murderers.

February 20th, 1883

"The girls of Meagher county catch the boys, blindfold them, and then the boys are subjected to a kissing operation by the Chinaman," says an exchange. If Meagher county boys are as ugly as report has it, the proceeding must be a little tough on the Chinaman.

March 9th, 1883

Chinese Murderers

On or about the 29th of January, at Horse Plains, Ah Yung alias Ah Kee, a bad high-binder, who is said to have killed fifteen Chinamen and two white men, at one time and another, dug a trench about the tent of the Chinese paymaster, placing in the trench several sticks of giant powder, with the intention of having a big blow out and during the excitement getting away with \$1,500 in money and \$400 of opium which the tent

contained. Before he had completed his hellish work, however, a Chinaman discovered him and asked him what he was doing, and, seeing that his little game was up he fired at fellow countryman and ran. He was pursued by another Chinaman, who called him by name, when he turned and fired at him, hitting him in the breast, causing death. He then made his escape, and a reward of \$00 was offered for his capture. He was traced to Frenchtown and arrested a week or ten days ago, but the reward business at that time was not well understood, and he was allowed to depart. Andrew Como, of Frenchtown, arrested him the second time at Nine Mile and brought him to Missoula. He was arraigned before Justice Sloane on Monday, but the examination was postponed until Monday next on account of the absence of witnesses. In the meantime Jailer Lane complains that the prisoner's appetite is something wonderful, and there are doubts in the minds of many as to whom belong the reward of \$4000, which has been turned over to Judge Stephens for the time being.—Missoulian, 2d.

March 16th, 1883

A Chinaman from an outside camp died in Chinatown yesterday of congestion of the lungs.

March 17th, 1883

The Chinaman who died in Chinatown Thursday, was buried yesterday with the usual ceremonies attending Chinese funerals.

March 18th, 1883

Bouncing a Chinaman

A man who owned a small shack on lower Dry Gulch has rented it to a Chinaman for some time past. Concluding at last that he wanted it for other purposes, he went to the Chinaman and notified him several times to leave it. The celestial paid no attention and showed every sign of having determined to hold possession until he get ready to go of his own accord. The owner finally tired o the obstinacy shown, and yesterday morning went down and "fired" the heathen out—setting fire to the shanty and burning it down. The Chinaman accepted the situation (he had no other choice) and got out in time to save his bacon.

March 30th, 1883

Justice Sloan, of Missoula, has held the alleged Chinese murderer to await the action of the grand jury.

April 12th, 1883

A Missoula Chinaman named Ah Coon last week stabbed a Chinawoman of that town in the face and cut her cheek severely. The murderous celestial has left the country.

April 19th, 1883

Broke Jail.

Tuesday night James Murray, Edward Hogan and Chinaman, who were confined in the city jail, effected their escape by removing a stone from under the jail door and prying the door up.

May 22nd, 1883

One Chinaman Killed and Another Wounded

A dead Chinaman was brought in from Townsend yesterday. In company with Deputy Sheriff Steele an Independent reporter interviewed "Chinese Charley" and gathered the following particulars: Two Chinamen, working on an irrigating ditch, half a mile from Townsend, were aroused from their bed about 9 o'clock Saturday night by a white man who demanded admittance. One of the Chinamen went to the door, opened it and was confronted by the white man, who demanded money. The Chinaman's reply was: "No got. Chinaman welly poor—work heap cheap and no catch 'em money." Upon receiving this answer the white man fired three shots, killing the Chinaman instantly. He also fired at the other Chinaman, wounding him in the arm. The white man is described as about thirty years old, and he rode a gray horse. It was not learned whether any arrest was made.

June 10th, 1883

There is scarcely a town of any considerable size in the United States where the horrible and revolting vice of opium eating and smoking has not penetrated and that the infamous joint is not alluring its victims to loathsome lives. This wretched Chinese vice is spreading and rapidly undermining the health and happiness of the young and inexperienced of both sexes.

June 13th, 1883

Ten persons, Chinese and whites, were arrested at Livingston last Friday for violation of the law prohibiting opium smoking.

June 20th, 1883

On Wednesday, says the *Madisonian*, Ah Terung said to be a partner in a Chinese mining company near Helena was arrested in this city, charged with grand larceny in running away with \$800 of the company's money and is now in jail. Sheriff Platner recovered about \$260 of the money the balance has gone against Chinese poker or some other game.

July 8th, 1883

Ah Young, a Chinese murderer at Missoula, has been sentenced by Judge Galbraith to be hung August 16—the same day of the Bozeman execution.

July 18th, 1883

A New Enterprise

Messrs. Fricks and Bellis (the former a manager of the Skating Amphitheatre and the latter recently employed in Raleigh & Clarke's boot and shoe department) have just completed arrangements for opening a steam laundry in Helena within a few weeks. Their place of business will be in the lower portion of the city, just west of the electric light works. The building—work on which will commence at once—will be 60x30 feet, and will be provided with all the latest improved laundry machinery. Only white help

will be employed. Mr. Bellis will go east in a few days to purchase the necessary machinery and supplies.

This is a new departure in the laundry business in Montana, and it is one which is sure to become very popular. Chinese laundrymen have always been accused (and justly, too) with wearing out the clothing entrusted to them for cleansing, and with losing many articles, all of which will be done away with when the new steam laundry starts up.

July 31st, 1883

A man named Kellogg horsewhipped a Virginia City Chinaman last week and had to pay \$34.50 to atone for the offense.

August 7th, 1883

Next Week's Executions

A 40-foot square corral has been built in the jail yard adjoining the Missoula jail in which to hang the Chinaman who murdered a paymaster at Horse Plains sometime ago. The execution, which will take place on the 16th inst., (a week from next Thursday) will be private, the law permitting the attendance of only twenty-five persons besides reporters and officials. The Chinaman at Missoula and Adolfsen at Bozeman are to be hung on the same day.

August 17th, 1883

Gallows Fruit.

Ah Yung, A Chinese Murderer, Hanged at Missoula.

Missoula, August 16.—The first legal execution which ever occurred in Western Montana, took place to-day in the hanging of Ah Yung, a chinaman, in the Missoula jail yard. It was witnessed by about one hundred people.

The crime for which this execution was the penalty, was committed January 29th last, when in an attempt to blow up the tent of the China paymaster at Horse Plains and rob the inmates, Ah Yung shot and killed the Chinaman who owned the tent, and wounded his brother who attempted to follow him.

To the last Ah Yung maintained his innocence.

Tickets of admission as a guard were issued by the sheriff to those who were present. When brought to the scaffold the condemned man sat for about ten minutes in a common chair while prayer was offered by Rev. G.M. Fisher, of the Presbyterian church. The Chinaman stepped boldly up to be bound, the noose was quickly adjusted, and in less than a minute he was dropped off into eternity. His neck was broken in the fall and not a muscle moved nor could a tremor be observed. His pulse ran right down and stopped in a minute and a half. After hanging about thirty minutes the body was cut down and left in the custody of the sheriff for burial.

August 9th, 1883

Horses Lost

In Belmont on Tuesday last two horses were lost. One light gray marked diamond 2 on left thigh; the other marked W, with line underneath, on left shoulder. Whoever will deliver these horses to Sing Lee, Chinese gardener at Belmont, will be paid \$10.

August 29th, 1883

Teaching Melican to the Chinese.

The *Missoulian* says: For some four weeks past one of Missoula's brightest young ladies has been engaged in teaching the art of speaking, reading, and writing the English language to a couple of enterprising heathen washmen. The Celestial pupils come for an hour's instruction during the evening, five nights in the week, and in the past month have made very material progress, having gotten out of the a-b-c period into the cat and dog words of three letters. Both teacher and pupils are much pleased with their progress. The Chinamen take English in small doses, but are very promptly on time, and always "have their lessons." The original contract was in effect for one month only; but at the completion of their first term they paid their bills, and in their best English expressed an enthusiastic desire for a continuance of the school.

August 31st, 1883

Chinese Marriage in High Life

A marriage in high life in China circles occurred in Butte last Saturday. The high contracting parties were Charley Chin Quin and Di Toa. The ceremony was performed by Judge French, and on the records of his court the affair was entered up in due form, the legend stating that the costs were \$10 and the judgment was satisfied. Charley and his fair young bride—no, she was not fair, she is said to have been pretty, but she could not have been fair—repaired to their home and held high carnival over the event, the gin, roast pig and bird-nest soup being in abundance and up to the standard. The witnesses in the case, who were white, failed signally in their duty of kissing the bride, although the groom, who is considerably Americanized, offered no objections to having the affair carried out in true Melican style. We understand that Mrs. Quin, nee Toa, was the recipient of many rare and elegant presents.—*Inter-Mountain*.

September 11th, 1883

Butte has a Chinaman afflicted with leprosy.

September 23rd, 1883

Sentences At The Meagher County Term of Court

Henry Lee, a Chinaman, sentenced to be hanged on February 5th, 1884.

September 25th, 1883

Dillon has a genuine Chinese leper.

September 27th, 1883

Missoula's Chinese leper has been sent to San Francisco, the citizens donating sufficient funds for the purpose.

September 29th, 1883

A Chinese barber, named Ah Yung, whose place of torture is in the Mongolian quarter, was yesterday fined \$10 and costs for doing business without a license. He was also required to take out a license. He was previously impressed with the idea that this license business was just a Melican dodge to extort money from the innocent Chinaman, and that

he could bluff the officers. He has changed his opinion since Judge Eddy tackled him and he will never, never do so again.

October 3rd, 1883

Broke Jail

A Chinaman, Condemned to Death, and a White Man Accused of Horse Stealing, Escape from the Meagher County Jail

The *Independent* is indebted to Mr. Jack Maloney, of White Sulphur Springs, for the following particulars of a jail delivery over there last Thursday night:

The Meagher county jail is a log affair, but was nevertheless regarded as a pretty hard place to get out of, as the jail room was surrounded on all sides, and above and below, by heavy logs. There were only two prisoners confined in it. One of them was the Chinaman who at the recent term of court at the Springs was sentenced to be hung on the 5th of February, his crime being murder in the first degree, he having killed another Chinaman at Maiden some weeks ago by striking him in the head with a hatchet. The dead body he then threw into a prospect hole. The murder, it is supposed was partly for the purpose of securing a sum of money which the murdered man had with him, and partly on account of a grudge which grew out of rivalry in business. The second prisoner was a man named Clark, who had been arrested only a day or two before on charge of stealing a horse at Canton. He was to have been taken to Canton for preliminary examination the following day (Friday).

The sheriff had left orders to be called at 3 o'clock, at which hour the coach was to start. He was called as requested, and the guard was sent to jail to awaken Clark, which he attempted to do by pounding on the jail door, the sheriff having the key. His knocking met with no response, and after awhile he went back and so reported to the sheriff. The sheriff came and opened the jail door and found that prisoners were gone.

As stated above the ceiling of the jail room was composed of logs (about eight inches through). A piece two or three long had been sawed out of one of these logs and through the aperture thus made the prisoners had escaped into the loft. The gable ends were closed up with rough boards, one of which had been knocked off, leaving the way of escape open.

The Chinaman took with him a heavy chain (riveted about one of his ankles) and also a pair of handcuffs with which his wrists were fastened together. It had been the purpose of the jailor to fasten the other end of the chain to the floor but this it appears he had as yet neglected to do. The other prisoner, Clark, had none of the jewelry of restraint upon him. The supposition is that the prisoners effected their escape by outside aid. Several Chinamen had been to see the condemned Celestial on Thursday and it is regarded as probably that they furnished the saw and perhaps waited outside to help him get away.

A posse of officers were immediately put on the trail, but up to Sunday night no clue had been found. At that time all the officers had returned, with the exception of the deputy sheriff.

October 10th, 1883

The refreshing news comes from Livingston that a Chinaman of that town has had all his chickens stolen. This is prosaic justice.

October 11th, 1883

Chinese Penance Day.

Yesterday (Monday) was penance day among the Chinese. Several wagon loads of roast pork, fowl, sweetmeats and other edibles were scattered upon the graves of defunct Mongolians at the cemetery, and Chinese candles, colored sticks, papers, etc., were burned at the graves, while hired mourners rent the air with weird lamentations. The ceremony is observed once a year and is supposed by the heathen to be a potent factor in securing happiness for the departed in the other world, as well as an acceptable penance for their own sins.—*Miner*.

October 14th, 1883

A gasoline stove in a Butte restaurant exploded Wednesday night, setting the building on fire. The restaurant building, and also a Chinese restaurant adjoining it, were burned down. Loss \$3,500.

October 23rd, 1883

About a year ago a Helena Chinaman while in San Francisco married a white girl, a native of Boston. They have been living in Helena since. About two weeks ago a little daughter was born to them. It is the first Chinese-American child (Chinese father and American mother) born in Montana, and probably the first in the United States.

October 24th, 1883

Gold creek is the first station to be honored with a depot on the Northern Pacific between Missoula and Helena—the company having erected one worth \$4,000 there. They have also put up a handsome section house for the use of white employees and another for the Chinese laborers.

December 9th, 1883

A Chinaman engaged in section work on the Northern Pacific near Avon, was run over by the cars a few evenings since, and was instantly killed.

December 18th, 1883

The Indian Idea of Dress Trains.

A Chinaman at Junction City (on the Yellowstone) recently took to himself a wife in the person of an Indian squaw, whose tribe was encamped on the other side of the river. The wedding ceremonies were brief and informal, the services of a minister not being required. The Celestial was so enamored of his dusky bride that he sent to St. Paul and purchased her an \$85 silk dress with the regulation train. The Indian maid, proud of her stylish turn-out, went across the river to visit her relatives. The tribe held a council over the new dress, and after a grave discussion it was decided to reduce the train thereof, which was done by the use of a scalping knife, the dress being cut off even with the bride's knees. When she returned to her lord and master he was so incensed at the manner in which the dress had been slaughtered that he kicked her out and went off on a big drunk. At last accounts he was still on the warpath and his bride had returned to her people.

December 18th, 1883

A Chinawoman (a slave) was badly beaten in Chinatown Sunday by her master.

January 14th, 1884

A Chinaman at Beaver Creek was relieved of \$120 and a silver watch Sunday night by three highwaymen. He recognized one of them.

January 19th, 1884

Five "dead broke" fellows at Livingston who were summoned as witnesses in the preliminary trial of a Chinaman for keeping an opium joint, swore that they knew all about it, their object being to be held in jail as witnesses till the next term of court, three months hence. Not being able (or willing) to furnish bail they were held, and besides getting board and lodging free they will have about \$900 in witness fees coming to them by the time the trial comes off, and this will be a sufficient stake with which to go to the Coeur d'Alene mines. It is a brilliant scheme.

January 24th, 1884

A Chinaman at Bozeman attempted to shoot a blacksmith the other day, and had to pay \$25 for his fun.

February 21st, 1884

A Butte bummer got broke last week and attempted to raise the wind by collecting a license tax from a Chinaman. The Celestial was too flip, however, and the bummer has been sent to jail.

March 12th, 1884

Tim Lung, the Chinaman who was recently arrested on charge of stealing a set of diamond ear drops from Josephine Hensley, had an examination yesterday and was acquitted.

March 12th, 1884

A Bozeman Chinaman is charged with having kidnapped a Bozeman Chinawoman. He took her over to Virginia City where they were captured and taken back to Bozeman.

March 16th, 1884

Yu Fu Kee, of Butte, offers a reward of \$200 for the return of Nan Foy, a Chinese woman who skipped out from Butte last week. She is accused of stealing from \$1,500 to \$2,000, but it is probable that the real trouble is that the Chinawoman is a slave and is trying to escape from her master.

March 28th, 1884

A Chinaman who was serving a thirty days sentence in the county jail (he was not kept under lock and key) took a "skip" last evening.

May 1st, 1884

The Utah & Northern northbound passenger train ran over and killed a Chinaman last Saturday between Silver Bow Junction and Butte. The engineer first saw the Celestial when within about 100 feet of him, and rounding a curve. The Chinaman was walking on the track, and although the whistle was blown, the bell rung, and the engine reversed, the endangered man paid no attention. He was instantly killed, his brains being dashed out and one foot cut off.

May 24th, 1884

Chinese Aggression

Rodney Street is to be cursed, it is said, with a Chinese Wash-House. Next will come a Chinese opium-dive, and then a Mongolian hell. Such things ought not to be, and we hope no good citizen will patronize a nuisance which will render that part of the town disagreeable, unhealthy and dangerous.

Helena has already had two Mongolian fires, and is now spending vast sums of money to protect itself from others, by way of fire-engines, fire-companies, watchmen and fire-plugs and cisterns, etc., etc. If one Chinese quarter has made all these so necessary there seems but little wisdom in establishing other quarters as center whence fire, pestilence and Mongolian vice, shall go forth to drive good people away, and depreciate the value of their property.

Our Mongolian Aliens may well rest contented with one quarter of the city without asserting a claim to plant their pest houses and tinder boxes in other parts of the town.

The feelings are such all over the Pacific Slope and in all the mountain towns, that a very slight aggressive movement on the part of the Chinese will arouse such a feeling of resentment and indignation as would clear out every similar nuisance in the city.

Men who have been twice burnt out and are paying heavy taxes every year to protect themselves from a standing and perpetual menace from fire and pestilence, will not need much provocation to free themselves from such dangers.

Since this matter has been forced upon our attention by the Chinese themselves, it is as well to look at another aspect of this whole Chinese or Mongolian question. We refer to the financial side of it. Men owning real estate may reap a temporary profit from the sale or rental of property to the Chinese; but the moment a man rents or sells a house in a block to a Chinaman, all the property in that block and neighborhood has passed under a cloud, its value has decreased. The next neighbor to the new Chinese pest house, will sell out at any sacrifice and some Chinaman will buy it and thus the evil will spread until all the best quarters of the city are financially and socially degraded.

Portland the queen city of Oregon, has been financially and socially depreciated by the fact that the Chinese have thus gained possession of some of the best portions of the city. The best citizens were driven from their homes by these alien pests, and were thus compelled to sacrifice their property. As the Goths and Vandals ruined Rome so by somewhat different means the Chinese have blighted the prospects of Portland.

Give the race half a chance and they will cast a financial blight over the fairest portions of Helena. We say therefore they should be permitted to gain no foothold outside their own quarters.

We would also say to the Chinese in our midst, and we say it in all kindness, go slow; keep to your own quarters; provoke no hostilities. Your fires have sent \$2,000,000

of our property into smoke and ashes; and we protect ourselves from similar fires at great expense. To this we have submitted with better grace than could have been expected; but we will not permit your wash-houses to poison the air we breathe and send our children to untimely graves.

May 24th, 1884

Wash House Drainage

It is proposed to drain the new Rodney Street Wash House into Dry Gulch. Now so far as health is involved, it might as well be drained into the street. The effect would be the same in kind but more in degree if run into the street; for Dry Gulch has no drainage and the little water there would only spread the infection over a wider area, and poison the air breathed by thousands instead of the hundreds nearer the filthy source.

June 7th, 1884

There are probably 1,000 Chinese buried, who worked for the railroad company between Spokane Falls and Helena. They were buried in shallow graves and in various places the coffins are visible. Verily the road was built with Chinaman's bones.

June 8th, 1884

A Young Deluge

A Gentle Reminder From Up the Gulch that Our System of Drainage is Susceptible of Improvement

The old Chinaman's vegetable garden in Chinatown suffered a good deal of damage, the water covering all of it and washing nearly all the vegetables out by the roots.

June 24th, 1884

Chinese Funeral

One of the Chinamen drowned at Corbin last Saturday was a highstanding member of the Chinese masons, and was buried yesterday under the auspices of that order. The funeral took place in Helena yesterday and the pageant was very showy. At the head of the procession marched an aged Chinaman gaudily arrayed in red and blue and carrying the banner of the order. On each side of him was a Chinese boy dressed in white, bearing a long staff surmounted by a strange drum-shaped device made of blue, yellow, and white paper. Next followed ten or a dozen fantastically-dressed Chinamen carrying various symbols and banners. Then came the Turn Verein band playing a dirge. Next was the hearses, with a Chinaman sitting by the driver and scattering slips of thin paper along the course of march. Following the hearse were about twenty more footmen dressed in white and blue and carrying banners. A wagon carrying provisions for the dead came next, and following it was another vehicle carrying the chief mourners; on this wagon also was an incantationist scattering and burning paper. The rear of the procession was brought up by about fifty footmen in ordinary dress.

The ceremonies at the graveyard were of the usual mysterious character, and the deceased was supplied with sufficient food to last him until he could raise a crop of rice in the new country.

July 11th, 1884

The Alleged Kidnapping Case

The alleged kidnapping case came to an end yesterday morning, and Frank Mullen, the accused, was discharged. The substance of the case is as follows: Chin Cum, a young Chinese woman, sold herself to Suzie Mouie, (this is the way the interpreter makes it—the girl could not talk English) for six years for a consideration of \$600. It is more likely, however, that the girl had no voice in the bargain, (the Chinese are rather informal in such matters) and that she was sold into slavery for keeps. It seemed impossible at the trial to get a very clear idea from the interpreter as to how the case did stand. Be this as it may, however, the evidence that was given was to the effect that the period of the bondage was six years, that it expired about a year ago, and that the girl has since been held against her will. Instead of being kidnapped, she was merely trying to gain her freedom; but her “owner” at first tried to make it appear as a case of kidnapping, trusting to her ignorance of English and the subserviency of the interpreter to the Six Companies, to make the kidnapping charge stick. Finding that this wouldn’t go down, the six-year story was substituted.

When it became apparent that no kidnapping had been done, Judge Smith (before whom the examination was held) ordered Mullen’s discharge. Attorney General Johnston, who was conducting the prosecution, at this point called the attention of the court to the fact that according to current report slavery was common among the Chinese in this country, and that it would not be tolerated where evidence of its existence could be had. At his suggestion Judge Smith informed the woman, Chin Cum, that the law would protect her and that she need not go back to the life with old Suzie Mouie if she did not want to. The woman promptly asked for protection, and it was accorded her by the court. She was placed in charge of the county jailer, temporarily, and as soon as it can be arranged will be furnished employment at domestic service.

July 11th, 1884

A Chinese School in Helena.

An enterprise has sprung up in our midst that many of our citizens are not aware of—a school for teaching the English branches to the Chinese. A reporter dropped into the Chinese school—which is situated on the West Side—last evening and beheld about fifteen Chinamen, each supplied with a teacher and a book and learning to read, write, and talk “altee samee Melican man.” The school meets three evenings a week in the Congregational Chapel, on Benton avenue, the use of which has kindly been given for the purpose. It is under the superintendence of Rev. R.B. Tobey, though we understand the work was really begun by Mrs. Tobey and Miss Collis.

During the winter Mrs. Tobey has been teaching a bright fellow named Jee Bow, and his advancement and bearing among his brethren set others to hankering after “Melican” knowledge. Application was also made to Miss Collis by a Chinaman to teach him to read, when the idea of a school suggested itself to the ladies named. They started with three pupils, which number has since increased to fifteen. The interest manifested in their work and the advancement made by their pupils is something wonderful.

Teaching them in classes has proven a failure, wherever it has been tried, hence each one requires a separate teacher, except in writing, when one teacher can instruct several.

They have books containing English words, and pictures representing objects, together with the Chinese characters, which latter, we are informed, the teachers have not yet tackled. After reading, spelling, and writing for awhile, the lesson of the evening usually closes by singing some song, the words of which are written in large letters on the blackboard.

The ladies who have this work in charge (the instruction being gratuitous) are certainly to be commended for their undertaking among this class of citizens, who are so much in need of the civilizing influence of this kind of education.

August 9th, 1884

Brooks, who is accused of striking a Chinaman with a slingshot one night about two weeks ago, and who was being held to answer to the grand jury, effected his escape from the city jail yesterday.

January 19th, 1894

The bones of twenty-eight Chinamen passed through Helena yesterday over the Northern Pacific, on the way to China. The bones were those of Chinamen who had died in Chicago between 1879 and 1887. Each skeleton was in a hermetically sealed casket.

January 24th, 1894

San Francisco, Jan. 23—The Chinese Six companies to-day issued a circular ordering Chinese laborers to register. Up to the present time very few Chinese have registered, but it is believed they will obey the order.

February 7th, 1894

The Helena Chinese received many visitors yesterday. A majority of the callers wanted to see the Chinese baby, but the little one was unwell, and callers were invited to come again.

March 17th, 1894

Up to the present time 2,000 Chinamen have registered in this district. There are supposed to be about 4,000 Chinese in this district. Registrations closes May 3.

April 11th, 1894

Time Is Almost Up.

May 3 is the Last Day of Grace for Chinese Under the Geary Exclusion Law.

In This Revenue district There Will Probably Be 1,000 Left Off the List.

This will be due to the fact that it is impossible for many of them to get out of the mountains.

In less than a month the time fixed by congress for the registration of Chinese residents in this country will have expired, and every Chinese laborer who has not at that time his photograph on deposit with Uncle Sam's officers will be liable to deportation at the expense of the government. And it is due to the fact that the government is going to pay the expense of sending unregistered Chinese that the few Chinamen in this city who have not registered have neglected that duty.

It is estimated by those who are conversant with the facts that there are in this city about 400 Chinamen. Of this number there are not to exceed fifteen who have not registered, and these are old men who want to go back to China. It has been the habit of their countrymen when an old Chinaman wanted to go back home to die, and did not have the money for the trip, to take up a collection for him and send him home. There is an impression that all the Chinese who come to the United States and stay any length of time make an independent fortune and go home to enjoy it. The facts are that the Chinese merchants do make a good deal of money, and often amass fortunes, but the laborers work like slaves for years and very seldom have enough when they grow old to pay their way back home. Then the well-to-do Chinamen subscribe enough to send them. The Geary law, if it is enforced, will give them a chance to save their money, because every old Chinaman who does not register will be taken to the marshal's office, arrested and sent to China at government expense. That this is the plan of the Chinese is evidence by the fact that in the revenue district composed of this state, Idaho and Utah the oldest Chinaman registered so far is 72, the average age being 38.

It is estimated that there are in the revenue district referred to 5,000 Chinese and this number applications for certificates have been received from something over 3,000. Collector Lyman believes that before the flag falls on May 3 the number will be increased to 4,000, leaving about 1,000 liable to deportation. As a rule the Chinese in Montana and in Utah are registered pretty well up to the full number, the only exceptions being those who live some distance from a photographer and who are putting off till the last moment sending in their applications, and those who desire to be sent home at government expense. The Chinese who desire to remain in this country evince a perfect willingness to comply with the law, but there are in Idaho probably 1,000 Chinamen who will not be able to register, owing to circumstances over which they have no control. The department allowed the collectors additional deputies to look after the Chinese registration business, and these extras, as well as the regular officers, have been traveling over the district, hunting out the Chinese, and giving them every opportunity to comply with the law.

But in Idaho, despite the utmost exertions both of the officers and of the Chinese themselves, there are probably 1,000 who will be left. This is due to the fact that there are that number of Chinese in that state who live off the railroad in isolated mining camps and towns, where there is no photographer; and so hard has been the winter and so deep the snows that the Chinese can neither get to a town, nor can the deputies get in to them. One deputy in Idaho reported a little while ago that he had gone over 250 miles of terribly rough, mountainous country, a large part of the time on snowshoes, in an endeavor to register 110 Chinamen who lived in that radius, but that he could not get to them. This same deputy has made three attempts to get into Custer county, Idaho where there are several hundred Chinamen, but so far he has not succeeded, owing to the depth of the snow. Soon the snow will begin to melt and then will come snowslides and high waters, and it will be late in June in some of the mountainous country in Idaho before the Chinese can get out to have their pictures taken, or until a photographer can get in to them. Naturally this will result in shutting them out.

There are some very curious cases come up for the collector to decide. Among these was a conundrum propounded by an Idaho deputy. He wrote the collector that he had found a Chinamen in his district whose mother was a rosary...Indian and whose

father was a Chinaman. The father and mother were living together, and the deputy wanted the collector to decide whether the son was a Chinaman, an Indian or an American citizen. The question was referred to the department, and so far there has been no direction from that quarter. Meanwhile an *Independent* reporter asked Billy Kay, the Chinese interpreter under what head the son would come and unhesitatingly replied "He is a mule and need not be registered."

April 12th, 1894

Deputy Internal Revenue Collector Butle, of Miles City, reports that nearly all the Chinese in his district have registered.

October 9th, 1924

First Chinaman in 20 Years Booked on Drunk Charge, Butte

Butte, Oct. 8—Hum Fay is the first Chinese to have a "drunk" charge after his name on Butte's police blotter in more than 20 years.

Early yesterday morning officers were called to arrest Hum on East Mercury street. He was in police court yesterday, feeling the worse for his celebration, which he said was prompted by observance of China's "republican day."

Hum drank some Chinese gin and it proved his downfall, he told the court. He was dismissed.

Jailer Barney Lavelle says Hum is the second Chinese he can remember that faced a "drunk" charge in the Butte court in years.

December 22nd, 1924

Broke but Honest Chinaman Departs After 19 Yrs. Work

Big Timber, Dec. 21—Tom Kue for many years a prominent restaurant man of Big Timber left yesterday for San Francisco, and possibly his old home in China, never to return. Nineteen years ago Tom came here, cooking for a time at the Grand hotel.

Then he operated a restaurant on the corner opposite the Cort hotel, later conducting the Golden Eagle, adjoining the Schlitz saloon, for many years. Then he made an unfortunate venture by building the American Eagle on Upper McLeod street, which cost far more than its real value.

Paid Every Debt

A change from a small place to a larger one was his undoing, and about a year ago he closed. A week ago the place sold for \$7,400, and from the amount Tom scraped together enough to take him away.

Although a Chinaman. Tom was honest to the last word. Every dollar he owed was paid before he left, an example many who have come here, put on a splurge, then bilked the whole town and beat it, might follow; and the sincerest wishes of businessmen who have known him for nineteen years will accompany him to his new home.

March 18th, 1925

Chinese are Jailed by Narcotics Squad

Sam Kee, a Chinaman said to have come here recently from Havre, was arrested in Chinatown here late last night by federal narcotic agents and taken to the county jail.

He was handcuffed for the trip up the hill but only as an extra precaution, it is said, and not because the prisoner resisted or that he has a “bad record.”

Others were to be arrested on similar charges before the night was over, it was said.

March 20th, 1925

Fire-Arms Confiscated

Several fire-arms were confiscated yesterday, following the arrest of Sam Kee, a Chinaman, on West Main street, on a charge of violating the federal narcotics law. Under a Montana law, aliens are not permitted to have fire-arms in their possession, it was said.

April 8th, 1925

Yee Sing, 80-year-old Billings Chinaman, pleaded guilty to selling narcotics and was sent to Leavenworth, Kas., for a year and a day, it being his third offense.

April 17th, 1925

Jury Says Chink Killed Boniface Despite Witness

Butte, April 16—While Louis Won, held for the murder of Peter Pavicic at the Grady hotel on the morning of April 10, sat with downcast eyes, Dolly Drury, the other party to the quarrel which resulted in the shooting of Pavicic, took the witness stand at the inquest held yesterday and retracted all former statements in which she had identified the diminutive Chinaman as the murderer.

“I don’t know. I was drinking and don’t remember,” was the reply the Drury woman made to questions asked her. I couldn’t say if this man was ever there.”

Despite her testimony and her direct denial of a verbatim statement made by her to Chief Deputy County Attorney N.A. Rotering on the day of the shooting and those in the building at the time positively identified Won as the slayer. The coroner’s jury in its verdict found that “Pavicic died from shock hemorrhage and a shattered brain caused by three bullet wounds, the shots being fired from a revolver held in the hand of Louis Won and discharged on the second floor of the Grady hotel about 2:30 o’clock on the morning of April 10.”

April 21st, 1925

Aged Chinese Leaves Forsyth Home, Wants to Die in Own Land

Forsyth, April 20—Friday Sam Wong, 71-year-old Chinaman, who has lived in Montana for 50 years, shook hands with hundreds of Forsyth friends before leaving for his old home in Canton, China, where he has a number of relatives. Sam has lived in Forsyth since 1910 and is a favorite with every one, being especially beloved by the children of the town as he has always had a ready smile for them and was ever ready to listen to their childish joys or sorrows. Sam Wong will not return to America, but is going back to the land of his fathers to die as he does not expect to live long. This fact he accepts with a stoical philosophy and smiles broadly as he hold out his hand says: “Want shake hands with Sam; he go back to China to die? Not live much long, guess.”

April 22nd, 1925

Sheriff Barnes Goes to Lincoln For Chink Who Indicates Lunacy

Sheriff Jim Barnes left here last night for Lincoln, to take into custody a Chinaman reported to have gone suddenly insane.

Inquiry made by long-distance telephone from the Independent's office to the Lincoln hotel developed the fact that the Chinaman, who was employed as a cook in that vicinity, had not attempted to harm anyone, but it was thought best to have him locked up.

April 23rd, 1925

Chinese Arraigned for Murdering a Butte Hotel Man

Butte, April 22.—Louie Won, diminutive Chinese, held for the shooting of Petar Pavicic at the Grady hotel. 7 West Mercury street on the morning of April 10, was charged with murder in an information filed in district court by County Attorney T.E. Downey yesterday.

Won, handcuffed to Deputy Sheriff Pete Pickovich, was brought before Judge Lynch for arraignment, and on this statement that he had no attorney, E.M. Lamb and J.J. McCaffery were appointed by the court to defend him. Saturday morning at 10 o'clock was set for the entrance of the defendant's plea.

Identified as Slayer

The defendant, it is alleged, shot Pavicic three times, through the head and neck after Pavicic, who was proprietor of the Grady hotel, had ordered him out of the place for beating up Dolly Drury, a resident there, according to witnesses of the shooting. He was positively identified as the slayer of Pavicic by witnesses at a coroner's inquest held last week, and the coroner's jury held him responsible in the verdict returned.

Dolly Drury, principal witness for the state, at the inquest declared that she could not identify Won as the Chinaman who was in her room previous to the shooting. She declared she was drunk and could remember nothing of what transpired. Previous to the inquest she had accused Won of shooting Pavicic in a statement made to Chief Deputy County Attorney N.A. Roterling. The Drury woman has been held in the county jail since the shooting.

April 24th, 1925

Wong is on Trial on a Narcotics Charge

The trial of Wong Hip Chung, a local Chinaman, charged with violation of the narcotics law, was begun before a jury in Judge W.H. Poorman's department of the district court yesterday morning. The state's case was completed late in the afternoon.

H.S. Hepner is attorney for the defense. The state's case is being prosecuted by County Attorney George W. Padbury, Jr.

June 10th, 1925

Ed Flaherty Tells Most Interesting Story of His Trip Around the World

During the course of his travels in China he met several Chinamen who formerly lived in Helena, among them Billy Kee, well known to many local residents. With Kee was another former Helena Chinaman who met the steamer at the dock and escorted the speaker to the office of still another former Helena Chinaman in Hong Kong, now the resident manager for two big steamship lines, including the one by which Mr. Flaherty was booked.

Former Helena Chinese

The speaker was the guest of the three Chinese, all of whom spoke English fluently, at a luncheon given in a Chinese restaurant on the ninth floor of a skyscraper. The ten-course meal started with shark fins which are ground up so they taste like shredded wheat, and sweet consommé in which floated two pigeon eggs. The Chinese delicacies were so filling that Mr. Flaherty said he couldn't eat a thing until the next day.

August 15th, 1925

Party of 13 Chinese Takes Body to China for Oriental Funeral

Accompanied by his widow and six children and six other relatives of the family the body of Pascuala Naba, a Chinese who died here recently, will be taken tomorrow to Seattle, and thence by steamship to Hong Kong, where the body will be placed in its final resting place with full oriental rites will be finished off with the placing of rice cakes in the coffin, the lighting of incense, the strewing of perforated paper strips, in which the feet of devils are expected to become entangled, and all the rest of the mystical ceremonial which had its beginning before the Christian era.

The others in the funeral party will be Toy Yuen, Yong Ching, Wong Look, Wong Chuck, Wong Chung and Jun Beck Fung.

Transportation for the body and the party of 13 was sold by George A. Miner at the Northern Pacific city ticket office through to Hong Kong. The total paid for the rail and ocean tickets amounted to more than \$1,000.

The widow said she expected to spend the remainder of her life in China, but some of the children may be sent back to America to finish their education. The oldest of the children have been attending the public schools here.

December 18th, 1925

Chinaman Sent to Prison for "Dope" Peddling

Butte, Dec. 17—Tom Hing, the first man to be convicted of a drug sale charge under the new state narcotic law, received the heaviest penalty ever given in Montana for a narcotic law violation yesterday when Judge J.J. Lynch sentenced him to serve from five to ten years at hard labor in the state prison and to pay a fine of \$500.

Hing alleged to have sold morphine and cocaine to Matthew Crough, a federal narcotic agent, last June 3, was found guilty of unlawfully selling narcotics by a jury in Judge Lynch's court last week. Hing, who is 60 years old and has been a resident of Butte for 43 years, denied ever having been connected with the drug traffic and also denied ever having seen the man to whom he was alleged to have sold the narcotics.

Hing previously had been tried on a similar charge for an offense, alleged to have been committed last May, but the case was dropped when the jury was dismissed after being deadlocked for 24 hours.

December 23rd, 1925

Louie Won, a young Chinaman, was found guilty of murder in the first degree for the killing of Peter Pavicic in the Grady block on West Mercury. He was sentenced to pay the death penalty on the morning of February 5 next.

January 7th, 1926

Yee Sam Lee Leaves his \$43,700 Estate to an Adopted Son

Billings, Jan. 6—A petition for the appointment of George Noyes, public administrator, as administrator of the estate of Yee Sam Lee, who was found dead Dec. 20, has been filed in district court. The purported will of the deceased Chinese and a waiver of the rights of Yee Gar Young as executor by the terms of the will, were also filed.

By the will which was made April 6, 1923, Yee Gar Young, nephew and adopted son of Yee Sam Lee, is made sole heir of the property of his uncle. The will was made shortly after an assault upon the aged Chinaman and was witnessed by Quong Wing, Yee Wot Lo and John B. Tansil. The document was signed for Yee Sam Lee, at his request by Quong Wing as his hand was too unsteady to even make his mark on the paper.

According to the petition for letters of administration, there are 11 pieces of Billings property in the estate, valued at \$43,700 of which the most valuable is the brick building at the corner of Minnesota avenue and Twenty-seventh street. While the property is known to be mortgaged to a considerable extent, it has a fair rental value and it is thought that the settlement will leave a small amount for the estate.

March 1st, 1926

Chinese Celebrate Strange Rites for Departed Celestial

It has been noticed that there are very many queer superstitions connected with a Chinaman's funeral.

Strains of odd music came from an upper story of an unknown building on Main street last evening. At first this music was produced by the use of dishpans and drums and later by violins and harmonious instruments.

It seems that the funeral of a Chinaman is quite an occasion. They were serving many delicacies and appeared to be enjoying themselves a great deal.

One superstition of the Chinese is to cut pieces of colored paper and in the middle of each piece make a hole. They then throw these along the street before the procession in hopes that they can get the body buried before the devil can get thru all the holes in the paper.

March 4th, 1926

Destitute Chinese Released from Pen Salvaged by Cops

Great Falls, March 3.—A decrepit Chinaman, more than 83 years of age, was Tuesday night given a haven in the Cascade county jail after he had been found seated in the Great Northern railway station, penniless and unable to make known his wants. With the exception of Chinese actors who have appeared in the theaters here, Yea Sing is one of the few if not the only Chinaman who voluntarily has come to Great Falls since the events of a day some 40 years ago which have been interpreted by his countrymen as a bar against their entry.

An Old Offender

Upon being taken to the county jail, officers ascertained that the Chinaman was Yea Sing of Billings, who on three occasions has been arrested for violation of the Harrison anti-narcotic act.

Just slightly less than one year ago, on March 8, Yea Sing was brought to Great Falls from Billings by Deputy Marshal W.C. Packer and was arraigned in the federal court on a charge of violating the Harrison act. He entered a plea of not guilty, but on

April 8 changed his plea to guilty and was sentenced to serve one year and one day in the federal prison at Leavenworth, Kas.

Was Ravenous

Upon being released a few days ago, Sing was given a railroad ticket to Great Falls and arrived here Tuesday afternoon at 3:45. In his ragged hat, a red ticket had been placed and carried the message "see Judge Ewing." For several hours, the old Chinaman remained seated in the station and finally an employee called Sheriff Tom Norton. When officers arrived, Yea Sing met them with a smile and told them "me sick." He was only hungry, according to officers, and nearly depleted the county larder when given supper.

Sent to Sheriff

A telegram was dispatched Tuesday night by Sheriff Norton to Yea Sam Lee, a Billings merchant, informing him that Yea Sing had again arrived in Montana and needed assistance. The old Chinaman on two occasions, prior to his conviction, was arraigned for violation of the Harrison act, but was discharged due to insufficient evidence.

June 25th, 1926

Supreme Court Affirms Conviction of Chinese for Murder of Butte Man

Conviction of Louie Won, a Chinaman, and sentence of death imposed in the district court of Silver Bow county for the murder of Peter Pavicic, were affirmed by the Montana Supreme court in a decision given yesterday. Assignments of error by the appellant, Won, were found without merit, likewise Won's plea that he did not understand English, and also his "alibi" carried no weight before the high court.

Murder in the First Degree

"It appears to use from the record," says the court's decision, "as undoubtedly it did to the jury upon the trial, that this defendant Louie Won, after committing an assault and battery upon a woman in room 10 of the Grady block, was by the master of the ouse, Pavicic, compelled to leave the place and that he did so with threats to return and 'get' Pavicic, and that shortly he did return with murderous intent, which he carried to a finality. It was murder in the first degree. The defendant then changed his appearance and shortly after the murder concealed himself there, and, at a time very shortly following the homicide, and the reason he gives for doing so was not believed the jury; the jury would have been credulous if it had believed it. Nor was the jury impressed with his attempted 'alibi.'

The defendant's alibi was that he was chased by a gang of boys, and hid himself to prevent violence on himself. The purported incident with the boys was not connected in any way with the murder in the defendant's testimony.

Pavicic was murdered April 10, 1925. The trouble arose when Pavicic interfered when the Chinaman was found choking and beating a woman named Dolly Durary.

October 17th, 1926

Injured Chinese is Reported Improved

Butte, Oct. 16—Despite painful injuries received early Thursday night when his vegetable wagon was struck and knocked from the road near his home at the Nine Mile gardens by an automobile driven towards town by R.F. Poppe. Won Sing, aged 61, is quite cheerful and is well on the way to recovery, according to attending physicians at St. James hospital, last night.

At the time of the accident the aged Chinaman was returning from Butte to his home at the Nine Mile and was driving without light, according to Mr. Poppe. After the crash, Mr. Poppe helped the Chinaman to his feet and took him to his cabin, about 300 yards away. Although Wong Sing insisted that he was not injured and refused to allow Mr. Poppe to take him to town for medical attention. Mr. Poppe sped to Butte and notified Sheriff Larry Dugan.

Sheriff Dugan and Deputy Sheriff Sam Haltunen responded and found the wagon, badly damaged, but the side of the road. One of the horses had a broken leg. The officers found it advisable to shoot the animal. After much persuasion, Wong Sing was taken to St. James' hospital, where it was discovered he was suffering from two broken ribs and a fractured right shoulder.

November 5th, 1926

Leaves for China

Wong Ching, a local Chinaman, left yesterday, via Seattle for China. He was booked through by George A. Miner, city passenger agent of the Northern Pacific.

November 18th, 1926

Boys and Chinaman in Row—Shots Fired

Anaconda. Nov. 17.—Main street had its usual Sunday afternoon calm broken down yesterday when On Hom fired five shots in the air in an unsuccessful effort to attract the attention of officers to three boys who had entered his noodle parlor at 2 Main street, and threw tableware at him.

Hom was not struck, and the boys escaped. This morning the father of one of them agreed to pay for the damage, and the case was dropped.

February 10th, 1927

Remnants of a Crude Burial Many Years Ago Found in Excavation near Street Car Barn

All that remains to tell the story of a crude burial of some years ago is, the upper plate of a set of false teeth. These, together with a few bones, presumably at one time belonging to a pig, were unearthed yesterday morning, on the west side of the car barn, in an effort to put in a new water main.

Those who know the custom of the Chinese are convinced that the plate is all that is left of some goodly Chinese citizen who died here many years ago. It would seem that the burial of a pig with the Chinese corpse is most essential, in order that the spirit have sustenance on its journey to the Chinese heaven.

Just as the digging began to be interesting, and more things found, the wall caved in. A few rotted boards, the outside layer of a coffin, were encountered just as the cave-in took place.

March 12th, 1927

Hears From China

Forsyth, March 11.—C.B. Taber received a letter from Sam Wong, for many years Rosebud county's only Chinaman. It is now two years since Sam left to spend the

remainder of his days in the land of his birth. His letter was relayed by way of San Francisco where he has a cousin in the mercantile business.

July 14th, 1927

Brisk Blaze Rages Near Garden City

Missoula, July 23—(AP)—A grass fire starting east of the old beet factory tonight was fanned by a high wind into a blaze covering 100 acres, destroying three sheds, two of which had been used for sheep shelters, the other having been the habitat of a Chinaman. The fire department checked the flames before they reached the western edge of the city.

August 7th, 1927

Chinaman's Queue is sent to Library: May be Relic or Just Fad

What use the historical library has for a Chinaman's queue will be thrashed out Monday when David Hilger returns from the pioneer meeting in Missoula.

Yesterday, the library received from Jens Hansen in Butte a long, silky Chinaman's braid with the following information:

"This is from a Chinese laundry on Montana street, Butte."

Whether or not the bobbed hair craze has just struck Butte's Chinatown or whether the queue is some relic of the past date will be made known when further investigation is made.

Close scrutiny reveals that there about one foot of queue, followed by about three feet of shoe string and topped off with two black tassels.

August 16th, 1927

Frank Wong, Chinese, Accused of Breaking Narcotic Drug Law

Frank Wong, a Chinaman who lives in Helena's Chinatown, was arrested yesterday by Officer J.L. Montgomery of the police force, on a charge of dealing in narcotics, and will be turned over to the federal authorities. Wong was taken into custody on Edward street. When searched, no drugs were found upon him.

But the federal officers have been asking for his arrest, and it is said that he has been connected in some way with the illicit drug traffic in this city. Wong will be transferred from the city jail to the county jail and a charge, it is understood, will be placed against him in the federal court.

August 19th, 1927

Information Charges Chinaman With Having Opium in his Possession

Assistant District Attorney Arthur P. Heywood yesterday filed an information in the district court against Ywe Quen, otherwise known as Frank Wong, a Chinese, charging the latter with violation of the anti-narcotic act of the state.

The information said that Quen had in his possession, unlawfully and feloniously "a bundle of yen shee a derivative opium, the same not having been obtained under a prescription furnished by a duly licensed physician, and the said Quen not being a physician, and not having the right to have the same in his possession."

Ywe Quen was arrested a few days ago by Chief of Police Saurzen and is an inmate of the county jail.

October 21st, 1927

\$230 is Stolen From Home of Chinese Who Runs Vegetable Farm

The Chinese are a mysterious and secretive people. Most of them belong to the Never Tell club that was making it difficult yesterday for the police department to render a productive end to Sam Lee a vegetable farmer near the State Fair grounds who had been robbed of \$230 taken from his trunk during his absence peddling vegetables in Helena to the whites.

He left an old laborer in charge of the ranch. Upon his return and discovery of his loss, he questioned the old fellow and was told that three strange Chinamen had visited the place during the day and been entertained with tea. Obviously the tea party, if the old Chinaman told the truth was costly to Sam Lee since it is pretty certain the larceny was committed by one of the tea drinkers.

The police believe that the old Chinaman was afraid to tell the names of his visitors. None of the Chinamen were talkative about the matter. They finally told the police they would use Chinese methods to secure the return of the money.

October 22nd, 1927

Butte, Oct. 21.—An Alder gulch pioneer is returning to China in the sunset of his years. Chun Jack, age “somewhere between 75 and 100 years”—Chinese are backward about admitting an age much beyond 70—Sund Lung and Sun Yok, “something over 70,” and Chew Way, who is sufficiently Americanized to admit his 84 years, are going back to China to die; not that they admit this. The true Chinese is as much adverse to conceding the possibility of death as is the most advanced health-suggestion cult in the United States. These elderly gentlemen state that their health isn’t good and that they are no longer able to apply themselves profitably to any calling in this country and that they are going home to recuperate.

Chun Jack, who admits 75 years, is a veteran Alder gulch. He came in on the tailend of the placer mining excitement of the 60’s when the presence of a Mongolian was not resented by the red-shirted miners, who had about decided the ground was worked out anyway.

The other three Chinese are also miners, workers who took up ground that the white man could no longer work profitably. These Chinese placer miners worked Alder gulch, Last Chance gulch and Chicken flat, north of Butte. Poor as were the pickings when the Chinese made their daily cleanup, there were sounds like a small riot in a crockery when a nugget as large as a bean was uncovered.

The four old men left last night on the Olympian for Seattle, where they will take ship for Hongkong.

December 29th, 1927

Chinaman Caught Smoking Opium Jailed Along With White Man on Drug Charge

Foy Hang, a Chinaman and Scotty Pavler, a white man, were arrested yesterday afternoon by Deputy Sheriff Jack Lavigne in the ...street between Main and Park avenue, and lodged in the county jail on the charge of having in their possession narcotics particularly opium contrary to law. Bail in the sum of \$2,500 was fixed in each case. Neither defendant could furnish the bail so remained in jail.

He found the Chinaman smoking opium in the landlady's room and Officer Lavigne. The Chinaman had a regular opium smoking outfit beside him, pipe, lamp, needle and drug and all about the room was scattered white women's wearing apparel, dresses, slippers and the like. The landlady's name is Sherley Rivin and her statement....hypodermic needle and...the drug the deputy sheriff reported. It was also filthy with dirt.

After the arrest of the two men they were taken into Justice Higgins court for arraignment and the court fixed their bail. They both pleaded not guilty to the charge but the Chinaman professed his plea by saying No sabbe.

In the room where they were arrested there was a blanket over the door to hid the light and the keyhole was plugged for privacy.

January 24th, 1928

Chinese Vegetable Ranchman Murdered and Robbed; Shot Thrice and Throat Cut Wong Chuck Arrested As Suspect Last Evening; Throat Gnawed by Animal Before Body was Found; Tracks of Two Men About House; Chinese Colony Silent and Clues Scarce.

Mow Lu Dun, a Chinaman 55 years old, was murdered yesterday at his vegetable farm southwest of the Green Meadow Far, and robbed of several hundred dollars. His body was found by one of his two partners, Toy Hum, a man about 40, when the latter reached the vegetable farm at 11 o'clock. The body was still warm at that time, the county attorney said, indicating that the murder had been perpetrated a short time before.

The murder was a determined one, and some features of the affair were ghastly. Three bullet wounds were in the body, one in the left breast, one through the head above the temple, and a third on the upper side of the right arm. The throat also was cut, and the flesh about the wound appeared to have been gnawed by an animal. A cat and dog were in the room when Chief of Police Spurzem and other officers arrived, and the undertakers, Opp and Conrad, who took charge of the body, expressed the opinion that the big hole in the throat and the condition of the flesh was caused by the teeth of an animal. It is believed that the cat or dog, attracted by the blood, tore and rended the throat of the dead man.

Last evening Chief of Police Spurzem arrested a Chinaman named Wong Chuck in a room in Chinatown on suspicion. In Chuck's room the chief found a pair of high-top overshoes and a pair of pants, both soaked with water or snow. Chuck said that he had not been out of town, but did not explain the condition of these garments. He will be held for investigation.

Five Empty Shells

No knife or pistol was found in the log story-and-a-half house on the farm in which the murder was done, but five empty shells from cartridges fired from a .32 caliber automatic revolver were found on the floor of the kitchen, in which the man had been killed. Five bullet holes corresponding to the size of the bullet mentioned were found in the inside kitchen door. When Chief Spurzem arrived at the house, he found the body of Mow Lu Dun lying in a corner of the kitchen.

It lay behind the door in which the foul crime had been committed. The old Chinaman was on his back, and the gaping wound in his throat made him a horrifying spectacle. Nestled close to his side were the cat and dog. Black streaks and smutches of

drying blood covered the floor near the door and about the dead man. Near the body lay his socks and shoes, and his feet were found to be bare.

An investigation revealed the tracks of men in the snow outside the outer kitchen door, and they were examined by the police chief and other officers. Many tracks of horses about the door made it difficult to follow the human tracks. Yet it was discovered that apparently two men had made the tracks in the snow. Signs indicated that they had run away from the kitchen door to a hummock half as high as a man, and then had returned to the house. Other tracks showed that both men had crossed the field into a lane and had passed along the lane to the road, and turned toward town.

The Probable Murderers

It is probable that these men were the murderers. The police and Sheriff Burgess' men, who also visited the house and examined the rooms and tracks, said that the murder probably was committed by Chinese. Mow Lu Dun was alone at the house for three days past, both of his partners having been in town. Toy Hum had been in town for two days and Toy Toy, the other partner, for about a week, according to the information elicited by County Attorney Padbury and Assistant County Attorney Heywood from them and other persons.

That the murder was done for robbery seems unquestionable. Eddy Fong, a Chinese business man, who has a store on South Main street, told an interviewer for The Helena Independent that Mow Lu Dun had had about \$150 on his person short time ago, and lately had had \$40 in his pockets. Furthermore, he came to Helena from the farm Monday and got \$350 with which to pay the annual rental on the lease for the land he and his partners farmed, which is owned by the Green Meadow farm proprietors.

"Do you think he was murdered for that money?" Eddy Fong was asked.

"Nobody know how he killed," was the truly Chinese reply.

Eddy Fong said it was too bad Mow was killed in such fashion. He expressed something like sorrow and put on a sympathetic face, but he was as destitute of information, suggestions as to clues or other ideas as clam of the stone age. The people believe that the Chinese of Helena know who murdered Mow, but are equally convinced that they will never give any information on the matter. It is against Chinese policy to divulge knowledge of anything relating to Chinese affairs to the authorities. While Eddy Fong was telling the interviewer something of Mow's history and business relations, a Chinese woman and two other Chinese in the store interchanged brief occasional comments in Chinese, but the interviewer could not catch their drift, as enlightening as they might have been.

Had Two Partners

Fong said that Mow had been in business with Tow Hum and Toy Toy for five or six years, had been in the country probably 20 years, had no known enemies, possessed no relatives in America, was neither married here nor in China, and was a man of sober and industrious habits.

Chief Spurzem said that Mow was in no way connected with the robbery of another vegetable gardner, one Sam Lee some time ago. The ranches of the pair were quarter of a mile apart, and there was no business or other relation between them. Three young Chinese were suspected of the Sam lee robbery, and Chief Spurzem was strong convinced of the guilt of one of the suspected Chinese, but his low celestials would not drop a single hint or speak a solitary word in confirmation of that conviction.

That robbery had nothing to do with a tong war, so far as the officers could learn, nor has this murder, and neither it nor the murder has disturbed the Chinese of Helena, so far as outward appearances go. There are probably not over 50 Chinese here. Many of them are old residents. They must be intimately known to one another, as to habits, character, history, and so forth, hence the opinion of police officers that they could put their hands on the slayer of Mow if they saw fit. The robbery of Sam Lee, Chinese have said, was settled in Chinese fashion. Unless extraordinary luck enables the police to discover the murderer, an unlikely thing, the taking off of Mow Lu Dun probably will be liquidated by the Chinese colony in the same fashion.

Examination is Futile

Messrs. Padbury and Heywood held Toy Hum and the boy who took the latter to the vegetable farm yesterday morning at the county attorney's office, some time yesterday afternoon, and subjected them to a searching examination, but got nothing material from them.

Coroner David T. Berg, who was out in the valley yesterday when the murder was discovered, said this afternoon that he probably will hold an inquest today.

The police, in efforts to reconstruct the murder, have considered a number of theories as to how it happened. The fact that Mow was barefooted suggests that he may have been in an inside room lying down, having taken off his shoes and socks, when the murderer or murderers called him into the kitchen and killed him. The fact that the men who made the tracks in the yard, first ran away from the house and then returned suggests that after shooting Mr. Mow, they were frightened and started to run away, and then were reassured and went back to finish the dark deed by cutting his throat.

Deputy Sheriff Parsons, who examined the house with Sheriff Burgess, stated that the bullets in the inner door of the kitchen indicated that Mow had been shot just after he had entered the room and closed the door behind him. There is a couch in a corner of the room on the opposite side, and Parsons found that a man, sitting on that couch and looking across the room, could see through the bullet holes in the door, which suggested that the shooting was done by some one sitting on the couch.

Threw Up Arm.

The wound on the upper side of the arm also suggested that Mow threw up his arm when the shooting began, and that one bullet grazed the arm and then entered his breast or head. The angle taken by one bullet through the door was horizontal, indicating that it might have been fired by a man standing. The others apparently angled upward.

Up to last evening nobody had been found who had seen any persons about the house of the murdered Chinaman yesterday morning before the body was found, but such witness may yet appear and give the police and sheriff's men a clue to work on. Two Chinamen who have attracted police attention because of their appearance and apparent lack of employment will be investigated, and more arrests may be made.

No circumstances has arisen thus far to intimate that the murder was done by white men, and yet that possibility is not entirely precluded by the theories of the officers. Some of the Chinese speak hazily of Chinamen, strangers, who now and then pass through Helena, or stop here for a short time, but there is no clue to the presence here yesterday of any such persons, and such statements are commonly made by Chinese when questioned by the police concerning such matters as murders and robberies of their fellows.

Rental Money Gone

The disappearance of the rental money Mow was known to have, and the absence of all other money from his clothes and the house, seem clear proof that the murder was for robbery. It is also possible that the dead man's shoes and socks were removed by the slayers in a search for money. Mow was considerably older than his partners, and was called by them the manager of the place. They drove the vegetable wagons, and they told Chief Spurzem that it was their custom to turn over the daily intake from sales to Mow at the close of every day. Apparently death would have followed either the shot in the breast or head or the wound in the throat.

January 5th, 1928

Clues Point Strongly to Wong Chuck As Connected With Chinese Murder
Shoes and Pants Soaked to Knees from Snow and Cocklebur like those at Ranch of Killing Found Sticking to his Sweater; Was Suspect in Chinese Robbery; Police Inclined to Classify Him with Hickman and Loeb and Leopold

The murder of Mow Lu Dun, the aged Chinese gardener who was killed at his ranch house near the Green Meadow farm Tuesday morning, continued to be a mystery yesterday, withstanding the intensive investigation being carried on by the county attorney, coroner, police and sheriff's office. However, the finger of suspicion points very directly to one Chinaman. The circumstances that caused the arrest by Chief of Police Spurzem Tuesday evening of a young Chinaman named Wong Chuck were strengthened yesterday by the discovery of an additional matter tending to deepen the suspicion, and to suggest the conclusion that he was at least involved in the crime.

Although Deputy Sheriffs Lavigne and Parsons spent yesterday interviewing Chinamen in Chinatown and in going over the scene of the murder, and County Attorney Padbury visited the victim's farm house for two hours yesterday afternoon, while the police also pursued some investigations, no further arrests in connection with the murder had been made last night at a late hour, and it is understood then that, while some of the younger Chinese, more recent residents of the city, are to be subjected to official probing, none had come under such direct suspicion as Wong Chuck.

Wong Chuck, Suspect.

Wong Chuck was arrested in his room Tuesday night, it was found that his trousers were wet to the knees and his high overshoes in the same condition. Their condition showed that he had been wading in deep snow. He declared that he had not left the city, and that his clothes had become wet in the snow in town. He was wearing his partner's clothes when arrested. He could not tell just how he got into snow deep enough to wet the pants to the knees on the streets of Helena.

Furthermore, he said he had heard about the murder at 10 o'clock. The body was not discovered till 11 o'clock, and news of the murder did not become public till after that time. But another fact was unearthed yesterday that even more strongly points to a visit by him to the murdered man's place.

When Chief of Police Spurzem and other officers were tracing the tracks of the men who were at the ranch house and in the yard yesterday morning before the murder, and who left their trails in the deep snow there, they passed through growths of cockleburs, and found the burs sticking to their clothes. Yesterday a further examination

of Wong Chuck's clothing revealed the presence of cockleburs sticking in the inside of his sweater in the lower hem.

Chief Spurzem and other officers justly point out that, while Chuck might have waded in the snow here in Helena and thus soaked his trousers and overshoes, he could not have got the cocklebur in that way. He declared he had not been out of town, and it is considered very suspicious that a cocklebur should be found in his clothes under such circumstances. The presence of the cockleburs at the Chinese vegetable farm along the trails made by the men who walked around the house, ran out in a field, ran back to the house, and then made off by way of a lane and the road, and the fact that Chuck was one of the three Chinese whom many conditions indicated as the thieves who robbed Sam Kee, another Chinese who conducted a ranch not far from that of Mow Lu Dun and his two partners, Toy Toy and Toy Him, a few months ago, seem important.

Looks About Thirty

Wong Chuck looks about 30, but is said by some Chinese to be 20. He is a rough looking Chinaman and gets angry and excited when questioned by the police about Mow Lu Dun's murder. The police, who had him in charge when the robbery of Sam Kee occurred, believe from his actions that he is a bad character, and are inclined to include him in a category of youthful Chinese corresponding to that which holds Hickman and Loeb and Leopold.

Dr. David T. Berg, county coroner, declares that the murdered Chinaman's throat was cut in the way it was found and that it was not gnawed by a cat or other animal. He said yesterday that there were no tooth marks, and he was fully convinced the wound had been made altogether by a knife wielded by the murderer or one of them. This gives the murder a blacker look and suggests motives such as actuated Hickman when he dismembered his victim. The tongue of Mow Lu Dun and adjoining parts in the throat was removed, and if the murder cut them out it may have been for revenge upon one he believed had talked too much.

That the old gardener either expected trouble or felt that his life was insecure may be indicated by the fact that a .25 caliber Colt's automatic pistol, fully loaded, was found on his person. Obviously he was taken by surprise, and was unable to use it in his defense.

Certain peculiar conditions at the murdered man's house have created talk among the sheriff's officers and officials. When Chief of Police Spurzem reached the house he found the dead man lying behind the door combination kitchen and bunk room where he was killed, and a cat and dog lying beside him. While his body was still warm, his feet were bare, and it was learned yesterday that one of them was frozen. How this occurred it is difficult to surmise.

Who Cleaned the Floor?

Another queer thing is found in that fact that the blood from the wounded man had been cleaned from the floor. The police though, because of the condition of the throat, that the cat had licked the floor. But that theory having been discarded, the question yesterday was how the floor was cleaned and by whom. The removal of the body from the house before the county attorney or coroner had viewed it and the place was criticized by them yesterday, since it destroyed conditions that might have aided them in analyzing the crime.

Coroner Berg and County Attorney Padbury yesterday decided to postpone the inquest into the murder till an exhaustive investigation of the Chinese in Helena, particularly that part that is not well known, can be made. The sheriff said yesterday that he will register all of the Chinese here, except those who are so well known that it would be useless in respect to them. Every Chinaman whose occupation and history are not fully known will be compelled to give an account of himself. Wong Chuck will be sent to the county jail and held for action by the county attorney.

January 6th, 1928

New Circumstance Suggests Wong Chuck's Participation in Slaying of Mow Lu Dun

Wong Chuck, the young Chinese, who has been held in the city jail since his arrest Tuesday night as a suspect in the murder case of Mow Lu Dun, the old Chinese vegetable gardener, continued yesterday to the center of official attention. The conviction is generally entertained by officers who have been investigating the case that Wong Chuck was implicated in it and a further circumstance indicating that he is the right man developed yesterday.

It is pointed out by Chief of Police Spurzem that, while Wong Chuck has been in jail two days and nights, no Chinese have visited him or in any way indicated an interest in his fate. This, the police say, is altogether contrary to Chinese custom. When a Chinaman is arrested, customary the Chinese flock to the jail and make him comfortable while he is in custody is made.

Wong Chuck has been ostracized by his fellow celestials in Helena. This is an extraordinary condition, and the police explain it on the theory that Wong Chuck has put himself outside the pale of Chinese fellowship through his acts since he has been here. Chief Spurzem is convinced that Chuck robbed Sam Lee and also a noodle joint here months ago, for which offense he was arrested at the time.

Chinese Hold Aloof

It is argued that, while the Chinese of the local colony are afraid to talk to the whites about Chuck, his conduct and character cause them to hold aloof, as whites do in similar circumstances.

County Attorney Padbury yesterday subjected Chuck to a lengthy examination, but was unable to secure anything from him except denials that he committed the murder. Sheriff Burgess and Deputy Sheriff Parsons were busy yesterday registering Chinamen and securing their histories. Chief of Police Spurzem and his men have made further searches of the Chinese quarter, but the weapons used to slay Mow Lu Dun and the stolen money have not been found.

Nothing as yet has developed to indicate that white men had anything to do with the murder. Further developments respecting Chinese who may have been associated with it, and relating to Wong Chuck's recent movements are expected within a few days.

January 7th, 1928

Still Checking Up Chinese

Sheriff Burgess and his men were still busy yesterday checking up on the occupations and history of local Chinese in connection with the murder of the old vegetable gardener. Mow Lu Dun, Wong Chuck, suspect, is still held at the city jail.

January 9th, 1928

One Visitor Asks to See Chuck

Wong Chuck, the Chinese held on suspicion that he was involved in the murder of Mow Lu Dun, Chinese vegetable gardener, has had no visitors since his arrest a week ago. But Saturday a Chinaman called at the city jail and asked to see him, saying he wanted to bring Chuck some food. He was told to get an order from the county attorney.

January 10th, 1928

Wong Chuck, Chinese Who is Held in Murder Case, is Accused of Vagrancy

Wong Chuck, the Chinaman held as a suspect in the murder case in which Mow Lu Dun, old Chinese vegetable gardener, was the victim, was brought before Justice of the Peace Higgins yesterday, and charged in a complaint by County Attorney Padbury with a misdemeanor, otherwise vagrancy. Chuck was returned to the city jail.

While nothing more has been unearthed in respect to the murder, some of the Chinese who talked about it at the time it happened have begun to change some of their statements. After the murder it was said by Mow Lu Dun's partners that he had drawn \$400 from the Chinese banker whose place of business is next door to the city hall to pay his farm rental, and Manager Kramer of the Green Meadow farm, which owns the land the Chinaman cultivated with his partners said that he had been told to come over to the Chinaman's holding Tuesday, the day of the murder, to receive the rent. Now the Chinese are denying that Mow drew the money stated, and saying that the only money he had was about \$40, which he is said to have carried in his pockets.

The police have been unable to get a trace of the pistol used by the murderer or any money that he might have stolen from the murdered man.

Wong Chuck's occupation was that of laborer or odd job man, but he was not particularly industrious, the police say. His father came here from California a year and a half ago, bringing a younger brother of Chuck, a boy of about 10, to Helena. The father died a month or so after his arrival at Helena. The boy lived with Chuck, and has been going to the public schools here and working in a noodle parlor after school hours.

One of the circumstances leading the police to believe a Chinese killed the vegetable gardener is the fact that the Chinese are so silent in the case. IF the murderer was a white man they would offer every help.

January 11th, 1928

Body of Chinese Held In Murder Probe Will Be Buried Thursday

Mow Lu Dun, the aged Chinese vegetable gardener, who was murdered at his ranch house near the Green Meadow Farm a week ago yesterday, is to be buried tomorrow, it was reported yesterday. The body has been kept at Opp and Conrad's embalming rooms awaiting developments in the case.

Yesterday an effort was made by the morticians to learn from the Chinese what arrangements the friends of the murdered man, if he had any, wished made respecting the funeral, but were unable to find any Chinese who were interested. The Chinese of the colony know less every day about the murder or anything connected with it, and when asked where the partners of the dead man might be found, those interrogated said they did not know he had any partners.

January 13th, 1928

Murdered Chinese Given Regulation Funeral With Punks and Mystic Papers

Mar Lu Dun, the old Chinese vegetable gardener who was murdered at his ranch in the valley January 3, was buried yesterday from the Opp and Conrad chapel, and the interment was at Forestvale cemetery. Chinese who understood how to conduct a Chinese funeral, whether under the Buddhistic or Taoist religion is unknown, officiated and they burned punks and scattered colored papers en route to the burial ground.

It is said that these mystic rites are to drive away the Old One, and that the papers contain symbols or texts that he cannot stomach, while the smell of the punks, a comprehensible reason, is something he cannot endure.

The arrival in town of Mar Kin Dun, said to be a rich Chinese resident of Seattle, a man with an occidental education, and a member of the large Chinese Mar family, was co-incident with the burial, and it is said that he supplied the money for the funeral expenses. Roast chicken, rice and other comestibles were also furnished to be placed on the gardener's grave to keep up his strength on his journey into the next world. What his spirit did for sustenance during the nine days he lay in state at the Opp and Conrad funeral home was not stated.

Nothing new in relation to the murder has developed of late, though it is understood the police and sheriff's officials are working on two or three clues, one of which suggests white participation in the murder.

January 17th, 1928

Wong Chuck, Held as Suspect in Murder Case, is Released

By request of County Attorney George Padbury, Justice M.L. Higgins yesterday, signed an order releasing from the county jail, Wong Chuck, a Chinese held as a suspect in the murder of Mar Leu Dunn, a vegetable gardener whose body was found January 3 in his home north of the city, with two bullet wounds and his throat cut.

The county attorney released the man after what appeared to be a complete alibi had been established for him. Investigation of other Chinese is being conducted, Mr. Padbury said.

A close checking up of testimony relating to the whereabouts of Wong Chuck showed that the man's brother who occupied a room with him the night before the murder left for school shortly after 8 o'clock in the morning. Chuck was seen at breakfast at 9 o'clock. Two Chinese who went to the vegetable farm to get a sack of potatoes, discovered the body, still warm, about 11 o'clock. From the time Wong Chuck was last seen around Chinatown and up to the time the body was discovered, the man would not have had sufficient time to walk three miles to the farm and back to town.
Alibi Established

The trousers wet to the knees and worn by Wong Chuck were found to have been in that condition as a result of swamping out a restaurant that day. A cockle bur found on the inside of the man's sweater and thought to have been picked up in the vicinity of the vegetable garden, gave evidence of having been attached to the sweater some time before. Witnesses who saw the suspect in town shortly before the body was discovered, established an alibi.

The county attorney's office will continue its investigation of the crime.

January 18th, 1928

Frank Wong, Helena Chinaman who has been arrested more than once in connection with drug possession and peddling, was fined \$50 on a plea of guilty to the charge of having no license. The court remarked that it was no crime under the federal statute to sell drugs, and that the license law was a means of attempting to do indirectly what could not be done directly. There is a drug charge in the state courts against Frank Wong.

January 20th, 1928

Chinese Murder Seems to Roused Chinese Interest; Probers Are Numerous

The Chinese murder case, in which Mow Lu Dun, aged Chinese vegetable grower in the valley, was killed by some assassin who shot him three times and cut his throat has been attracting more attention lately than it did earlier, and rumors and hints of rumors that the murderer has been seized or is about to be seized have been as common as cold weather this winter.

Two Chinamen from the coast, Mar Kin and Toy Young, both apparently prosperous and well-to-do merchants, have appeared on the scene, and it is reported that, while one of them is seeking proof of his birth here so as to get himself admitted to citizenship, and the other announced that his purpose was to learn what had become of \$2,500, which he said he understood was banked here by Mow Lu Dun, both of them have displayed rather unusual interest in the murder.

There also has been in town since Tuesday a white man, R. Woodside, registered at the Placer as from Butte but said to come from San Francisco, who is also here to look into the murder. It is said that Mr. Woodside lived many years in China, speaks Chinese dialects better than the native, married a mandarin's daughter, took part in the Boxer outbreak, was a Rough Rider under Roosevelt, and at one time was the bodyguard of the late Dr. Sun Yat Sen, who was called the George Washington of China.

Woodside and Captain J.M. Adamson, local constable and the "man who never sleeps," are said to have been investigating the Chinese murder. Just what has been accomplished is unknown. Mar Kin apparently convinced the authorities that Wong Chuck, the Chinese held in jail as a suspect, was innocent, and secured his release. What Toy Young may have done in the premises is unknown.

One thing seems clearly demonstrated that, for some reason that anybody may guess at, the murder of Mow Lu Dun has interested the Chinese of the coast and Intermountain states. Professedly the murderer is sought. However, the strange activity and interest displayed suggests other motives. That the murderer may be found or some other denouncement may result is possible, but no discoveries have yet been announced.

January 29th, 1928

R. Woodside Gets His Name Before The Public Again

R. Woodside, a large man, with a brown beard, who came to Helena some weeks ago and announced that he was here to work as an agent of San Francisco Chinese upon the task of unearthing the murderer of the aged Chinese gardener, Mow Lu Dun, who was shot three times and then cut across the throat with a knife at his ranch in the valley was brought to public attention again yesterday by the accidental death at Great Falls of a man whose name was given as S.C. Schwerb.

Schwerb, described as an oil field worker, 30 years old, with two companions, were at the depot Friday to catch a freight train out of town, and when Schwerb tried to board the moving train, he was thrown under the wheels and killed. A handbag said to belong to him contained a written statement of an examination of a suspect who had been questioned by Woodside relative to the Chinese murder. How this transcript entered the possession of Schwerb was not learned here. A letter given by Lester H. Loble to Woodside respecting a Chinese murder case in the past also was found in the bag.

Looks About 30

Woodside, who says he is 55 years of age, looks about 30. He left here for Great Falls two or three days ago. He asked Chief of Police Spurzem to go there with him saying he wanted to question some one there about the Chinese murder, but the chief declined. When Woodside first appeared in Helena he was short of funds, and his bill at a local hotel was guaranteed by a friend.

What he really came here for has puzzled the police and other authorities. He said he came on account of the murder case, but soon quit that to take up an episode at the fort involving a patient and a doctor. He had men from the fort come to his room at the Placer hotel, and there he took statements from them relative to that matter, a stenographer being employed. But nothing came of it. When he proposed the arrest of the physician to a veterans' organization, the proposal was rejected.

Work Was Fruitless

So far as the police or sheriff's office knows, his work on the Chinese murder was just as fruitless. After two well-dressed Chinese came here, a Chinese suspect against whom there was not enough evidence to warrant a prosecution, Wong Chuck, was freed. They then departed. Woodside has lingered on the scene, but nothing has come of it so far as the murder case is concerned. The presence of his notes and writings in the grip of the man killed under the cars may be explained in a number of ways. Schwerb may have got hold of Woodside's handbag by mistake. Woodside may have entrusted the writings to him. He might have stolen them.

The police and the sheriff and his officers would curiously like to know what is Woodside's real connection with the Chinese murder case. Like Mar Kin, the Chinese investigator, he picked on a white boy as a suspect, and one day he told a hotel employee that the murderer would be in jail within an hour, but no evidence even sufficient to warrant an arrest was secured.

February 5th, 1928

Wong Chuck, the Chinese Murder Suspect, Went to Butte in Brand New Togs

The Helena police have word that Wong Chuck, the Chinese who was held here in jail for 10 days or more, as a suspect in the murder case of old Mow Lu Din, the Chinese gardener who was shot and knifed at his ranch near the Green Meadow farm the third of January, is in Butte. After he was released, he appeared here in a new suit of clothes and other fresh habiliments, his hair cut, looking, as the police expressed it, "all dolled up."

Chief of Police Spurzem still is of the opinion that Wong Chuck is the man who committed the crime, and his view is supported by a number of other people who are familiar with all of the conditions.

Even some of the Chinese are beginning to confidentially admit that he was the man. Another circumstance that might have had something to do with the murder was a row among Chinese in one of the stores in Chinatown the evening before the murder. The Chinese made a good deal of noise, and locked the door of the place. Wong Chuck was among those in the store at the time.

Of course, only the Chinese know what the wrangle was over, and they will not tell the whites. The conviction of Wong Chuck was impossible without more evidence than was had, and that could not be secured, while the officers have no doubt, from the experiences with the Chinese in the past, that his countrymen would have taken the witness stand and furnished Wong Chuck with an alibi had he been prosecuted.

The general opinion also is held that Mar Kim came here with only one purpose and that was to get Wong Chuck out of jail. He disappeared from Helena as soon as that was accomplished.

February 20th, 1928

Old Chinaman Named Toy Ket Dies From Paralysis on Friday

An old Chinaman 66 years of age, Toy Ket by name, died suddenly Friday night at his lodgings in Chinatown of a stroke of paralysis. He was buried yesterday at Forestvale cemetery. The old fellow, because of age and ill health, was unable to work, and subsisted by getting food from restaurant and hotel refuse barrels and through the charity of his fellow Celestials.

He lived in a dark attic in a brick building, a small room in which he cooked and slept. He was found there by a Chinaman after he had taken ill. The Chinaman called Chief of Police Spurzem, and the latter called Dr. Cooney and notified the poor farm. It being decided that he would be taken to the hospital for attention. However, he died on the way there.

Toy Ket had lived in Chinatown here for a number of years, but the Chinamen say he had no relatives known to them.

March 3rd, 1928

Chinaman Found Guilty of Vagrancy

Butte, March 2.—For the first time in the history of Butte police court a Chinaman was found guilty of vagrancy yesterday and sent to the county jail for 30 days. The man gave his name as Sam Lee.

Chinamen have been tried in the municipal court on various charges, mostly gambling, but they have never been charged with vagrancy. After the session Chief of Police Murphy was asked about various arrests of Chinamen in the past.

“These birds may not always be within the law,” he said, “but no matter where they are parked, they are generally too busy to be classed as vags.”

March 11th, 1928

Sheriff Allows Chickens to Settle Ownership Scrape

Dillon, March 10.—The old adage that “chickens always go home to roost” was the rule used by Undersheriff Carl Hartwig this morning to settle a neighborhood quarrel in the section locally known as “the Cabbage Patch.” Mrs. Hegarty appeared this morning at the sheriff’s office and swore out a complaint against a Chinaman who lives in the district

alleging that he had stolen two of her chickens. Hartwig went back with her to serve the warrant the Chinaman stoutly denied the theft, claiming instead that the chickens were his. Hartwig proposed that the chickens be turned out midway between the two places and that whichever coop they selected to roost in would prove the rightful ownership, to which both parties promptly agreed. The chickens were accordingly turned out, but it being several hours before roosting time they fell energetically to the job of scratching for food. Hartwig returned to the sheriff's office, leaving the parties willing to wait until dusk or caprice cause the chickens to decide who really owns them.

March 13th, 1928

Chinese May be Wholesale Dog Poisoner; Eight Newly Slain Found at His Ranch Yesterday

Wong Hing is in the toils of the law accused of a heinous crime. He is a Chinese rancher in the valley, and the ghosts of eight dead dogs must haunt him, for their deaths are laid to him, and the evidence strongly indicates that he is guilty. Gap Adamson, local constable, arrested Hing yesterday at his ranch and found the bodies of the dogs all about the place, one at the Chinaman's very doorstep. He was put in jail, and Wednesday at 2 o'clock will be interrogated by the county attorney.

Of course he said "no sabe" when questioned, and when Eddy Wong was secured as an interpreter of course Eddy translated a repetition of that statement. No sabe, known nothing, no see, no ketchum nothing constitute the Chinese defense in all cases, and beyond that wall of impassive pretended ignorance it is difficult for white men to penetrate.

However, Hing stands in a fair way to get his, since the circumstantial evidence against him is strong. He had a female dog at his place, and the dogs from the ranches 'round were attracted thither. They were poisoned and the bodies of most of them thrown in a hole by Wong Hing. He said he found them dead, and put them in the hole to get rid of them. He also said he had given the slut away, but she was at the place as late as Thursday last. When Eddy Fong asked him how the dog found at the doorstep came there, he said he did not know, but failed to mention the other dogs he had buried.

The owner of one dog poisoned said he would not have taken \$100 for it. It was a fine sheep dog. Another was a police dog, and all of the animals were more less prized by their owners. While Adamson could find no drug store that lately had sold strychnine, the poison of course could have been obtained in Chinatown. Feeling among the white neighbors of the Chinaman in the valley is running strong.

March 24th, 1928

Tong War Turns Out Mere Hallucination

Lewistown, March 23—Deputy Sheriff Pat McErnery, the genial jailer at the county bastille was somewhat at a loss for a while to know whether or not an old fashioned Chinese Tong war had broken out right here in Lewistown, when at about 8 o'clock a wild eyed Chinaman, dashed madly up to the jail door demanding admission and protection from a brother Oriental who he claimed was in hot pursuit of him with murderous intention.

After some questioning Pat admitted the panting chink and assigned him special quarters in a well-guarded suite it proving to be no other than Hom Foo.

It seems that Hom Foo who is about 60 years of age and has been a resident of Lewistown for a number of years has been having these hallucinations off and on for some time according to what was brought out by testimony at the hearing, he jumped out of a window at his home on Janeaux street in a half-clothed condition and with slippers on and was seen wandering about the Great Northern depot and as far out as the county poor farm, later he was seen at the cemetery crouched in sitting position for some time, and it was shortly after 8 o'clock when like an apparition from the Orient he appeared before Pat McEnerney demanding protection and lodging.

March 25th, 1928

Aged Chinese Comes After Insane Son

Lewistown, March 24.—Hom Foo, 50-year-old Chinaman and one of the partners in the Wing Lee laundry of this city, who following a hearing before Judge Huntoon, was declared insane, will not be sent to the state hospital at Warm Springs as was originally planned. A wire from Hom Foo's father in San Francisco was received yesterday morning in which the aged Chinaman stated that he was starting immediately for Montana and Lewistown and would take charge of his son.

March 27th, 1928

Chinaman Tried To Hack Himself to Death With Knife

Lewistown, March 26.—Two rather startling events have occurred at the county jail during the past two nights, with no fatalities resulting from either; one the unsuccessful and rather half-hearted attempt at suicide by Hom Foo, the Chinaman recently adjudged insane and committed to Warm Springs, and the other the birth of triplets to Nancy, the mascot of the county bastille. The latter event took place Friday night while Pat McEnerney, the jailer, was en route to Warm Springs with the attempted suicide. Mr. McEnerney returned last night, having placed the man safely in the state hospital.

In the suicide attempt, it seems that the jailer was awakened by an outcry of some kind early Friday morning, and on investigating discovered Hom Foo busily engaged in hacking himself with the heel of a butcher knife. The Chinaman had gouged several minor cuts on his head and throat and one rather deep cut on his leg. The knife was immediately taken away from the would be suicide and Dr. Wilder, county physician, called, who proceeded to take several stitches in the leg cut, the others not being much consequence.

It is thought that the attempt was, to a great extent, a bluff, as the Chinaman could easily have cut his own throat if he so desired. Just how he obtained the butcher knife could not be learned.

April 19th, 1928

Colored Boy Will be Tried For Licking 3 Chinese Laundrymen

B..ldy Grove, a colored boy, who fought three Chinamen over his laundry, charged with assault, was brought before Justice of the Peace Higgins yesterday, and pleaded not guilty. His trial was set for Saturday at ten o'clock. The complaining Chinaman is Wo Hung. He runs a laundry business. He had some shirts of the Groves boy.

The latter called for them. Wo Hung presented his bill. Then the fight broke out, according to the Chinaman, and he and his two assistants, Duck Lee and Skip Sing were much belabored by the defendant. Wo Hung had many bumps on his head, sundry cuts and bruises and a bloody face. He looked as if he had been run through a wash wringer. There seemed to be something the matter with the wash bill.

May 12th, 1928

Chinaman's Horse and Wagon Crash into Automobile

Butte, May 11.—It wasn't a collision with another car that wrecked Antone Falks' auto near the Northern Pacific station yesterday. It was Ching Fong's horse and wagon that struck the car, police were told. The horse ran away from West Mercury street. Everything was missed in a wild dash, but Falk's automobile, which had a fender broken, officers were told.

July 1st, 1928

Two horses, \$50 ore wagon and harness, \$50 Yee Wau Bros. 204 West Main.

July 6th, 1928

Chinaman Cuts up Friend With Knife

Butte, July 5.—Sam Lee, a gardener in Basin creek, received a deep knife wound in the right thigh yesterday afternoon when he was struck with a knife in the hands of a Chinese during a fight in China alley.

Lee was taken by friends to the St. James hospital, where Dr. Malloy treated him. He was released and allowed to go home.

August 5th, 1928

Billings, Aug. 4.—George Lee, a Chinaman, was arrested in the alley between South Seventy-sixth and Twenty-seventh streets and Minnesota and First avenues on a charge of shoplifting preferred by Irving Alberts, clothing merchant at 2712 Minnesota avenue.

Lee, according to Alberts, had purchased a shirt in his store and had tucked a pair of men's silk hose in his pocket. Alberts trailed the Chinaman and summoned the police.

September 24th, 1928

Wong Him, Chinese Cook Who Had Lived Here 25 Years Dead

Wong Him, a Chinaman who had lived in Helena for the past 25 years, and who followed the profession of cook, died yesterday morning at 5 o'clock at St. John's hospital. He had been ill for some time with a heart affection. He was a single man, and lived in Chinatown on West Main street, where he had a room in a lodging house. He was taken to the hospital a few days ago.

Wong Him was a native of China, was aged 44 years, and was an American citizen, he having been naturalized several years ago. He was widely known among the Chinese and also to a number of whites, and had been employed at the O.K. café and at various other places. He is survived by a cousin, Ong Ling, who lives in Helena.

The remains are at the Opp and Conrad funeral chapel.

September 28th, 1928

Beat Up Chinaman and Take His Money

Havre, Sept. 27.—James Lynch and Robert Dickgreser were arrested on Big Sandy creek by Sheriff Timons and are being held on a charge of robbing the Sing Lee laundry Sept. 14 of \$400. Wing Sing, proprietor of the laundry, was badly beaten and left tied up by the hold-up men.

Timmons picked the men up after a running fight. He accosted them near a shack on Big Sandy creek and when they saw him they started to run. He called for them to halt but when they refused shot in an effort to stop them. Lynch halted but his companion continued his dash into the brush along the creek where he was captured later.

October 15th, 1928

Chinaman Runs Amock in a Noodle Parlor

Patrons of Establishment of South Main Routed by Gun Play

South of Main street was given a touch of wild life last night, when Wong Ting Yee ran amuck in the noodle parlor of Yee Son, flashing a revolver, while patrons of the place were thrown into a panic.

The sheriff's office was called and Deputy Joe Zoubeck rushed to the noodle parlor and took the Chinaman in custody before any damage was done.

The offender was held last night in the county jail and a complaint will be filed against him today.

October 17th, 1928

Three Jailed in Narcotic Raids

Wong Chuck, Young Chinese Who Figured in Murder Case, Again in Toils

Federal agents representing the division of import and export narcotic restriction early yesterday raided joints on south Park street and West Main Street, rounding up a Willie Thompson, a negro and Young Hem and Wong Chuck, Chinese.

The officers making the arrests were C.F. Miller and E.F. Straw, who came here from Seattle. They were assisted by Sam Roberts, director in charge of prohibition enforcement here.

The two Chinese were taken before United States Commissioner Julius H. Brass last night and their bonds fixed at \$300.

Wong Chuck, the young Chinese who was held in the county jail three weeks as a suspect in the sensational murder of a Chinese gardener near the fair grounds, about a year ago, when the victim's tongue was cut out, made the bail last night and was released from custody. Young Hem was held on failure to make bond.

The officers confiscated a hop pipe and quantities of opium and yenshee in the Chinamen's quarters.

November 24th, 1928

Old Time Chinese Known as "Ice Cream" Expires at Poor Farm

"Ice Cream" is dead.

Known in Helena's Chinatown as Yee Chuck and to his white acquaintances as "Ice Cream," he was for more than 45 years a familiar figure on the streets.

A few days ago the old Chinaman poverty-stricken and suffering from infirmities of old age, was taken to the poor farm, where he died. He was put to rest in pauper's field near the farm.

The odd nickname became attached to him in the early days when he served ice cream from a two-wheeled cart which he pushed about the thoroughfares of this city. Each day the crafty Chinaman cranked out a gallon freezer of ice cream and offered it for sale to the cry of "icy clean."

Boys Tricked Him

His dispensary was equipped with spoons, dishes and cones. Upon hearing of the death of the oriental, men here recalled the method by which they enjoyed ice cream at his expense. While "Ice Cream" left his cart to hand one of the lads a "cone," others thrust their hands into the unguarded freezer, and scattered around the corner or into an alley with the irate Chinaman on their heels.

It is said Yee Chuck frequented gambling houses at times as a "booster." It was the object of the "boosters" to start a gambling game, and as those with money started to play the "booster," dropped out.

November 24th, 1928

Chinaman Loafs.

Butte, Nov. 23.—For the third time in the history of the city of Butte, officers stated yesterday, a Chinese was sentenced on a vagrancy charge when Chung Pock Chuee, a habituer of "Chink Alley" was given 30 days in jail after police court trial. Chuee told the court in broken English that he was a cook but had been unable to get work and when unable to give a satisfactory explanation for his past two weeks of "loafing," was sentenced to jail.

December 21st, 1928

Chinaman Taken in Narcotic Raid

Butte, Dec. 20—Federal men continuing their raids in the city on alleged drug addicts and peddlers of narcotics last night arrested two Chinamen who are booked at the city jail on a charge of being "held for the government." The two will be arraigned before a United States commissioner today. Those booked were Tic Chong and Sherman Lee, both arrested in Chinatown.

December 26th, 1928

Officer Shakes Dead Chink, He Wakes Up

"Melly Christmas."

Thereby lies the result of an investigation into the reported demise of a Chinaman conducted yesterday by Chief of Police Joe Spurzem.

Sing Lee, a resident of Helena's Chinatown, appeared at the station yesterday in a perturbed state. He said he had not seen his friend, Wa Ling, for two days, and death of the oriental was his only deduction. Sing was afraid to go and look for Ling.

The chief of police went to Sing Lee's quarters and to all appearances he had passed beyond. After a severe shaking, however, the Chinaman blinked his eyes and wished the officer the greetings of the day.

December 29th, 1928

Indict 12 On Federal Charges; Court Opens January 8 in Billings

Wong Chuck and Young Ham, Helena Chinese are accused of dispensing narcotics without a license. Offenses took place during the first part of October. They were arrested October 15. Ham is held on seven counts. They are out on \$300 bonds.

January 12th, 1929

Conley Sends Early Day Relics to the Historical Library

...and a Chinese water yoke, brought to Montana by Won Kee, the first Chinaman to enter the territory... Won Kee brought the water yoke to Yam hill, 10 miles west of Deer Lodge in 1866. The Chinaman later organized a company to develop the placer workings at Yam hill.

January 27th, 1929

Frank Conley Given Ancient Yoke Carved by Chink Miner

Deer Lodge, Jan. 26—Memories of the yesteryear—of the rush for gold to the then territory, which now includes Montana—of the Vigilantes—and all those trailblazers and “empire builders” whose untiring efforts had to do with the history of what is now the Treasure state, were vividly recalled to the mind of former Mayor Frank Conley yesterday by a curious wooden “yoke,” which was handed him a few days ago by an old-timer with the suggestion it might be of considerable interest and value to David Hilger of the library of the Montana Historical society.

The ancient yoke, which though cumbersome in appearance, is remarkably light and strong, was made by Won Kee, a Chinaman who came to Montana in 1866 and who used the yoke for carrying two huge buckets of water with which to operate a “rocker” while prospecting for gold. There are still a few of the early pioneers of this section who remember Won Kee, who was not only a pioneer himself, and a prospector, but likewise a shrewd business man. His gold “diggings” were on Yam Hill, in the fastness of the mountains about 10 miles west of Deer Lodge. He was successful in his quest for the yellow metal, and eventually organized a mining company and operated on a comparatively extensive scale.

January 28th, 1929

Trials of Forty-Eight Federal Offenders To Begin This Morning.

Cases of three violators of the Harrison drug act, slated to be heard tomorrow, are the United States against Wong Chuck, Young Ham, William Thompson.

February 4th, 1929

Nab Chink Dope Peddlers In Raid by Butte Officers

Butte, Feb. 3—Leung Ah Hung was lodged in the county jail Friday night after Constable Cyril Kohn and Special Investigator John (Fink) Kelly of the county attorney’s office found three cubes of alleged morphine hidden under the linoleum of the closet of his room in the Ford hotel.

The diminutive Chinaman, who was fined \$50 in the last session of federal court here for violating the narcotic act, was picked up in the Chinese quarter about 10:30

o'clock Friday night, taken to the county attorney's office, searched and questioned. A key was found in his possession.

Ordering their prisoner to take them to the room to which the key belonged, Kelly and Kohn took their prisoner away. He protested the key did not belong to him, but the officers induced him to find the door which the key fit. When the cache of alleged dope was uncovered, the Chinaman, who weighs maybe 100 pounds, fought desperately to get away, officers said.

A charge of having drugs in his possession illegally will be filed against him.

February 11th, 1929

Saturday afternoon the jury in the case against Wong Foo and Leong Wah, charged with first-degree burglary, returned another verdict of guilty. The Chinese were sentenced to two to four years at Deer Lodge. Humorous situations arose frequently during the trial. Questions were asked the defendants through an interpreter. An alarm clock, an exhibit of the state and alleged to have been stolen by the Chinese, together with \$300 in cash and a pair of ivory chopsticks, was put before Leong Wah on the witness stand.

"What time does this clock show?" County Attorney George Padbury, Jr., asked the witness.

"Me doan know, me doan know," the Chinaman replied excitedly.

"What time does that clock say?" Padbury asked, pointing to the courtroom clock.

"No, no, me don't know," Leong answered, declining to so much as look at the timepiece.

Wong Kim, the complaining witness took the stand for the state earlier in the trial. As he answered questions of his countrymen, both defendants ejaculated wildly in their native tongue, in an apparent attempt to refute Kim's testimony. No little effort on the part of bailiff was necessary to keep them quiet.

February 13th, 1929

Chink Heavy Loser in Two Burglaries

Observance of an ancient Chinese custom proved costly to Wong Kim, 34 Cutler street.

Following an oriental belief, he remained away from his dwelling for a week after the death of his wife. During his absence two burglaries were committed. Kim is loser to the extent of \$500, several pairs of chop sticks, an alarm clock and a quantity of cloth.

Brown Anderson, an alleged dope fiend, paroled from the Wyoming State penitentiary under the name of James Bailey, and now in the county jail, has confessed to entering the Chinaman's residence and helping himself to \$200 in cash, ornamental ivory chop sticks and cloth, overlooked by burglars who previously ransacked the place.

Two Are Sent Up

Last week, Wong Foo and Leong Wah were convicted in district court of burglarizing the same residence. They are in the state penitentiary, serving sentences of two to four years. Their loot consisted of \$300, chop sticks and the alarm clock. Wong Kim, the loser appeared in court as complaining witness.

March 1st, 1929

Chinese New Year

Celebration Comes To Close in Helena

Celebration of Chinese New Year, which continues as long as participants care to indulge, has subsided in Helena, prominent orientals said yesterday. Observance on the part of Chinese began the night of February 10 with the explosion of hundreds of packages of firecrackers and other noise. That first night a five-piece "Chinee" band paraded through "Chinatown" and its members displayed tremendous enthusiasm.

But the orientals are becoming Americanized to a great extent, they said, and feasts and merrymaking were not in evidence as in other years. Even in China a movement is on foot to shift the calendar so it will coincide with that of America, according to the newspapers received here from China. They have already planned to include the day of the overthrow of the old monarchy as a holiday, similar to our Fourth of July.

Ancient customs for the Chinaman calls for a squaring of all accounts before New Year's celebration begins. Chinese in Helena say that the rule is not followed strictly here, however, in the east the hand of the law falls upon those who fail. "Chinatowns" in the large cities on the coast celebrate for 21 days, it is said.

April 1st, 1929

Willie Toy, Helena Chinaman, Is in Bad

Anaconda, March 31.—Whether William Toy, Chinese herbologist, will be obliged to face a charge of having narcotics in his possession or will be tried on the misdemeanor of gambling, hinges on the outcome of an analysis of small quantity of white powder alleged to have been found in his possession at the time of his arrest early this morning. Pending the outcome of the analysis, he is being held on an open charge at the county jail.

"Toy's suspicious appearance on the streets at different times of the night have cause us to suspect him of being implicated in the vending of narcotics in Anaconda." County Attorney Michaud said today. "If to be a narcotic, felony charges will be filed against him".

Toy is well known in Montana, especially in Helena and along the Milwaukee railroad. He was born in San Francisco, but his boyhood was spent in Helena. During the time the Milwaukee was building its Pacific extension he operated a string of eating houses along the line. Among some of his best known hostelries was the old Scott house at Deer Lodge and the hotel formerly operated by the "Jaw Bone" railroad at Lombard. It was with money made in the hotel business that he spent a number of years in San Francisco studying the Chinese profession of herb doctoring.

April 14, 1929

Aged Chinaman Was Veteran Prospector

Deer Lodge, April 13.—Interment was made this afternoon in Hillcrest cemetery of the remains of Ah Sue, century-old Chinaman, who was found dead Tuesday on his isolated mining shack in the Ophir district.

Additional details concerning the aged man are to the effect that he was born in 1828 and had passed his one hundred and first birthday anniversary. This information was given out by another Chinaman who resides in the same locality and who declared that he is past 90 years of age. Ah Sue is reported to have come to Montana about 1865 and it was in 1868 that he located in the Ophir mining district and began his search for

the elusive “yellow metal.” For nearly a half century the old man, by persistent effort, was able to pan sufficient gold dust to keep himself supplied with the bare necessities of life, but he always anticipated “strike” of gold in large quantities—the dream of all prospectors, was never realized.

May 18th, 1929

Two Cans Opium Are Seized on Chinamen

Butte, May 17.—Opium valued at several hundred dollars were seized by County Attorney Harrison J. Freebourn and aides in a raid of a Chinese laundry, 327 South Main street, Wednesday night.

Dong Yann, alias Charles Y. Garbutt alias Doug Yuenn alias Charles Y. Garbutt, who said he came here recently from Denver, was taken in custody. Charges of possession are to be filed.

The Chinaman gave valuable information which is expected to result in other arrests and seizures. Two small sealed cans of the drug were confiscated. The prisoner said he paid \$56 for each can and that he intended to retail the drug by the “card” system. In this way he would realize nearly 20 times as much from sales, the county attorney said.

June 3, 1929

Burgess Grabs Dope Estimated at \$30,000

Evidence of heavy traffic in narcotics in Helena was revealed yesterday with the arrest by Sheriff Clyde Burgess of Wong Cue, alias Wong Kee, 52, Chinese tailor of Butte, following the seizure, three weeks ago, of 100 ounces of morphine and cocaine, estimated by federal authorities to be worth \$30,000 at “bootleg” prices. The sheriff found Cue in Butte at 2 o’clock in the afternoon in his establishment on South Main street in Butte.

The arrest of Cue culminated three-week’s investigation of the sheriff. He took charge of a black suitcase containing the “dope”, the largest haul in the city’s police history, on May 21. Since then he has been linking Cue with its possession.

Cue, who has been a resident of Butte for a number of years and is believed to be a citizen of this country, holds an interest in a Helena valley truck farm, according to Sheriff Burgess.

Stores His Baggage

On May 21 Cue arrived from Butte with the suitcase, containing 23 ounces of cocaine and 30 cans of morphine, each weighing between two and three ounces. Saying he did not wish to carry his baggage to his valley farm, he left it in the care of a Peosta avenue resident who buys produce from the truck farm. The baggage included two sacks, one holding a roll of bedding and the other, personal effects.

The Peosta avenue man decided to move and asked Sheriff Burgess as to what disposition he should make of the Chinaman’s property.

Examination of the suitcase at the county jail revealed the drugs, and several pieces of old clothing.

The sheriff started an investigation at the valley ranch. He uncovered a check there signed “D.D. Young,” written on a local bank. Officers of the bank said the account was carried in care of Wong Cue in Butte. He also found a claim check, bearing the name “Wong Kee.”

Arrest Him in Butte

Equipped with the information, Sheriff Burgess drove to Butte May 25, but lacking positive identification of his man, he returned and verified it.

He left again yesterday morning for Butte and grabbed his man.

“You are under arrest,” he told Cue.

“What for?” the Chinaman asked.

“For that suitcase full of dope you left in Helena three weeks ago.”

“Come here, come here, I want to talk to you,” the oriental replied, displaying considerable alarm.

But he had nothing to say, according to the sheriff, staring in bewilderment at the “John Doc” warrant. On the drive to Helena, the Chinaman was non-comittal.

November 23, 1930

Mining Revival At Once Famous Diamond City Is Seen In Recent Activity

Watson, Nov. 22—(Special to The Independent)—In the early 70’s Diamond City was a booming mining center where more gold was taken out than anywhere in the United States, if not the world, in the same acreage of ground...In the 80’s this thriving mining camp began to go down, the mines to play out and miners moved away until for several years, a lone Chinaman was the sole survivor. The Chinaman finally went to the county farm in Broadwater county where he subsequently died. An old miner or two drifted back to the old haunts for a few years following the exodus of the Chinaman and the population of Diamond City and vicinity remained at three or four inhabitants until the last two or three years....

December 26th, 1930

“Melly Chlistmas” Muchee Whoopee is Downfall of Chink

Butte, Dec. 25—“Melly Chlistmas”—“Whoopee”—“Happy New Year”—Such calls last night disturbed the peace of some south side residents, so the police were informed.

Officers summoned to the 2400 block, Washoe street, found a Chinese vegetable merchant well under the influence of liquor, celebrating the yuletide, according to reports.

Several blocks distant, the man’s horse, tired of waiting for its owner was plodding toward home with a wagon load of vegetables when overtaken by officers.

The Chinaman, who was unable to give his name, was booked as “John Doe Chink” on an intoxication charge. “That’s when East becomes West,” remarked one of the officers as he turned to close the cell on the prisoner.

A group of boys were in the act of searching the wagon when the police arrived, they said, and managed to escape with a bottle thought to have contained a quantity of “Sakki,” a Chinese drink.

March 21st, 1931

Chinese Peddler Arrested in Act of Selling Dope Caught Passing Dope to Woman Customer

Caught in the act of making a delivery of drugs to a woman customer in Jackson alley, just off Broadway, by Sheriff Art Parsons and Undersheriff Walter Nilan, who

were lying in wait on a tip, George Chin, age 37, a Chinese, was arrested about 8:30 last night and lodged in the county jail on a charge of the sale and possession of narcotics.

Sheriff Parsons received confidential information recently that Chin was meeting the woman at this place every night at 8:30 o'clock to sell her a day's supply. Last night he and Undersheriff Nilan secreted themselves at points of advantage an hour or more before the given time and waited for things to happen.

Had Big Supply

Chin was apprehended just as he was passing a "bundle" of yen shee over to the woman. The Chinese was about to receive \$5 in payment when Sheriff Parsons shoved a revolver in his ribs and took charge.

When searched later, Chin's person yielded five packages of narcotics valued at \$100 or more at retail prices. The "dope" included morphine, opium, cocaine and more yen shee. Each of the five packages contained several bindles to customers. The average bindle sells at \$1 to \$2.

Takes \$5 a Day

The woman, who is married, admitted to the officers that she had been a steady customer of chin for sometime. She said she sued \$5 worth of the drug a day. Yen shee is a peculiar black soft substance resembling opium. It may be either smoked or chewed, it is said. Addicts frequently soak it in water for a time and toll it in pills which they chew or eat, the officers were informed.

The woman was not detained when she promised to appear as a witness against the Chinaman. Her name is being withheld by the authorities because of the value of her evidence when the case is brought to trial. Chin also had a pint of moonshine whiskey on his person and police believe he was engaged in the bootlegging business as well as the sale of narcotics.

Whether Chin will be turned over to federal authorities or will be prosecuted under the state narcotic laws was not determined last night. County Attorney Sherman W. Smith will investigate the matter today.

April 12th, 1932

Ah, Me! to Be a Dead Chinaman If That Is What They Feed 'Em

Virginia City, April 11.—An item taken from the files of the "Madisonian," published at Virginia City on April 5, 1877, in the Territory of Montana, has the following interesting contribution to the current literature of the day:

"The Chinese residents of Virginia City have been feeding their dead this week. Experience has taught them that roast pig and chicken are more often appropriated by barbarian Caucasians than celestial Mongolians, and now the defunct disciples of Confucius are simply regaled with cold rice and whiskey, and a few candles to light them through the dark valley. Good enough for a dead Chinaman anyway."

April 21st, 1932

Herb Planted by Chinese Miners Growing in Basin

Stanford, April 20—Specimens of a plant believed to have been introduced into the state by Chinese miners in the early days are found profusely in Dry Wolf and Running Wolf canyons in the Little Belt mountains near Stanford.

The plant is Henbane (*Hyoscyamus niger*), a fetid solanaceous herb with clammy pubescent dentate leaves and yellowish brown flowers. It is a member of the potato family and contains the alkaloids byoscyaline and hyocine, which, when heated together to 150 degrees, form atropine, an official drug used in twilight sleep. Henbane is a biennial, does not bloom the first year, and the roots are not considered toxic until the second year, when the leaves and flowers are the most poisonous. The seeds are particularly deadly to poultry. The plant is a native of Asia and was transplanted to Europe and America. It was first discovered near Big Timber in 1880 and is now found in many parts of the state.

Beginning in the foothills near the Armin Neubert ranch and extending up both canyons approximately 10 miles, colonies of the plant are found at frequent intervals, having spread rapidly during the last five years.

July 17th, 1932

Chinese Population of Philipsburg Dead

Anaconda, July 16.—Tom Yee, the only Chinese resident of Philipsburg, died yesterday afternoon at the Philipsburg hospital following a long illness. Funeral services were held at 2:30 o'clock this afternoon at the Methodist Episcopal church of which he was a member. Rev. Earl McKnight, past of church, conducted the service at the church and cemetery. Many friends of the pioneer Chinaman were in attendance.

August 12th, 1932

Sold to Chinaman

Meyers disposed of most of the stolen property to Wong Fu, a Chinese residing on Cutler Street. All was recovered except three blankets sold by Wong Fu to Lee On, a neighbor. Lee On became frightened and burned them after Fu was arrested, officers learned yesterday. He reimbursed Deegan for their value and was released. A charge of receiving stolen property is pending against Wong Fu.

December 6th, 1932

No Trace of Chinese

No trace of Joo Lin Sing, 78-year-old Chinaman who disappeared Saturday morning after threatening to hang himself, had been found yesterday evening when the few searchers who braved the snow and cold were forced by darkness to return. Sing was seen Saturday afternoon about a mile this side of the top of Grizzly divide by Tom McKelvey who offered him a ride. The aged Chinese refused, saying he was going only a short distance. He is believed to have gone up a side gulch near the top of the divide.

April 2nd, 1933

Aged Chinaman Will Be Deported to His Ancestral Kingdom

Billings, April 1.—A sick old man, Yee Shaw. Thursday night told immigration officers he is ready to go back to China and make his peace with his ancestors. The government Wednesday seized Yee Shaw for deportation as an undesirable alien.

He doesn't understand the meaning of the term but he is willing to return to the Middle Kingdom if Uncle Sam will pay his way.

Yee Shaw was one of several persons detained by Inspectors Walter S. Bliss and C.L. Johnston Wednesday and Thursday. Others held in the county jail while their right to be in this country is investigated include Alberto Espinoza, Martin Canerar and Dornacio Enriquez.

June 20th, 1933

Butte Chinaman Is Up For Hearing on Deportation Count

Hearing to determine whether or not Loh Sun, Butte Chinaman who claims he was born in Virginia City, shall be deported to China, was held yesterday before Judge George M. Bourquin in federal court. Immigration officials arrested Sun on a charge of illegal entry into this country.

Testifying through an interpreter Sun told the court that he was born in Virginia City in 1899 and that shortly afterwards his mother left his father to run away with another man. He asserted his father took him to China when he was three or four years of age and that he remained there for a number of years.

Later he was employed on the S.S. President Taft, running between the Pacific coast and the Orient, he declared. He testified that he quit the boat at Seattle about 10 years ago and came to Butte.

Immigration officials testified that Sun told them he was born in China at a hearing held in Butte several months ago and produced evidence to show that the first time the S.S. President Taft visited Seattle was 1927, several years after Sun claimed. The matter was taken under advisement by the court.

July 14th, 1933

Chinaman Bound, Hit and Robbed by Pair Who Take His Money

John Wong, a member of Helena's Chinese colony, walked into his abode last night about 10:20 to unexpectedly encounter two whites, who wrapped a towel around his head, tied his hands and feet, hit him over the head and took \$14 in silver which he had hid under a small rug at his residence at 119 E. Cutler street.

A neighbor, who heard his screams for help, called police at 11 o'clock and Sergeant Earl Brown and Officer Tom Martin responded to the call. The Chinaman was so frightened that he could give no accurate description of the pair other than that "there were white men."

July 19th, 1933

Young Chinaman Found Dead in Car

Harlowton, July 18.—The remains of Seto Tong, Chinese, who was found dead in his Pullman berth aboard a Milwaukee train when it reached Twodot, was brought to Harlowton and placed in charge of Perkins Funeral Service.

At Seattle, where deceased remains will be shipped for passage to China, it has been learned he has a young wife and wealthy relatives. Tong was a young man about 26, and was a student in an eastern university, and was on his way to Seattle to embark for China to spend his summer vacation.

An autopsy performed by local Milwaukee physician and county coroner, disclosed deceased was suffering from a lung and heart ailment.

August 5th, 1933

Solons Bid Aged Chinese of Choteau Farewell As He Sails East to Canton

Choteau, Aug. 4.—Soo-Son, Chinese, one of Choteau's pioneer citizens having lived here 44 years, was honor guest at a banquet Tuesday evening at the Beupie hotel as a farewell tribute of respect and esteem in which he is held by his fellow townsmen. A large number of business and professional men were present as was also United States Senator John E. Erickson, whose friendship for the aged Chinaman dates back to the days when the senator was practicing law in Choteau.

Senator T.O. Larson, acting as toastmaster for the occasion, spoke highly of Son's integrity and good citizenship, then called on Senator Erickson, who paid glowing tribute to Son's upright, honest character—by recalling a remark often made to Son here in the early days; "That if everyone was as honest as he was there would be no lawyers and he (Senator Erickson) would be out of a job.

As a tangible proof of esteem Son was presented with three useful gifts which could be used on his long journey to Canton, China, his birthplace, there he longs to spend his remaining years. He will visit a short time in San Francisco before sailing for the orient, where he has brothers and other relatives.

Son came to America when 18 years old. His early years were spent in Spokane and Helena, prospecting and mining. Forty-four years ago he came to Teton county and was employed as cook for Sands & Taylor on what its familiarly known as the "S.T." ranch.

There he remained for eight years when he established a restaurant in Choteau, which he operated successfully for many years, until failing health and advancing years forced him to retire. Since then he has lived at the Beupre hotel.

August 16th, 1933

Ancient Chinaman Honored at Dinner Given at Choteau

Choteau, Aug. 15.—When a former Montana governor (now United States senator), a state senator, a mayor, a group of business and professional men, and other friends both old and young, sit down to a banquet table to honor an old Chinaman and bid him farewell as he returns to his mother land with the avowed intentions of never returning and presumably to die, then there's something more than even the unordinary.

And that is what happened here Tuesday night at the Beupre café when Choteau said goodbye to Soo Son, venerable Oriental, who has been a resident of Teton county for 44 years and of the United States for 55 years, and in all that time has never been back.

The former governor present was Senator John E. Erickson; the state senator, Tom Larson; and the mayor, C.W. Burns. Mr. Larson was toastmaster, the United States senator was the principal speaker, and the Chinaman himself was one of those who gave talks.

From the lips of all came praise—praise for his citizenship—though he could never claim that privilege; praise for his charity; praise for his honesty, praise for his fairness with all people; praise for his law abiding qualities; praise for humor and fellowship; praise for his love of children. What person could live in a community for 44 years and leave it without an enemy, the former governor declared, as he recalled his early acquaintanceship with Soo Son in the days when he (the speaker) was a young

attorney here. "All they said to me when I left was 'goodbye' and many were glad to get rid of me at that," Senator Erickson said.

But there was more than speechmaking. He was presented with a new hat, a new sweater, a box of cigars, a purse to buy himself something with when he reaches San Francisco, and yesterday morning Arthur Hirshberg sent him to Great Falls by auto and with an attendant to see him safely on the train.

That ended Soo Son's career in Choteau. "Me no come back; gettin' too old," he said, but still he did not reveal the secret deep in his heart—the unquenchable instinct of every Chinaman to return to his native land to die. Unemotional as the race is reputed to be, tears welled into his eyes as his friends gathered about him to pay him tribute.

September 3rd, 1933

Texan Is Too Slow As Chink Smashes Record to Bastile

Toy Lee, member of the Helena Chinese colony, may have been drunk yesterday morning at 7 o'clock but he was aware of the lesser of two evils and he chose it—the city jail.

Toy Lee not only chose the city jail but he chose to run for it as Jock Bonner of Texas, with whom he had had an altercation in the O.K. café on South Main street, was hot on his heels.

The two quarreled in the café and Toy Lee, so the story goes, ran into the kitchen and availed himself of a butcher knife. But the butcher knife made no impression on the angry Texan and when Toy Lee saw this, he dropped the knife and fled.

It was close race and for a time it appeared that Toy Lee might be reached by the flapping arms of his white assailant. But Toy made it, and without stopping to explain to the police what it was all about, took refuge under the desk at police headquarters.

To settle the dispute the police arrested both of them. Charges of drunkenness and disturbing the peace were preferred. The battle was aired out in police court a few hours later and both were released.

Chief of Police Joe Spurzem said that the Chinaman broke the all-time record to jail.

September 9th, 1933

Chinese Deported

Toy Ching, convicted of violation of the narcotic act in federal court, was taken to Seattle yesterday by United States immigration authorities for deportation. Ching has been in the county jail here since his conviction.

October 5th, 1934

Henry Den Again Taken on Charge of Selling Dope Chinese Is Arrested for Third Time in Six Weeks

Henry Den, Helena Chinese, against whom the narcotic charges are now pending, was arrested last night for the third time in about six weeks when Sheriff Arthur Parsons caught him in possession of a complete opium smoking outfit and a large quantity of narcotics, Den was arrested in a shack on South Park avenue near Wall street.

The capture came about in a somewhat unexpected manner. Sheriff Parsons had taken John Masterson, a narcotic addict, arrested on Tuesday by police, to the shack to recover some articles the man admitted he had stolen and left with Den for safe keeping. Overhears Request

Keeping out of sight, Sheriff Parsons sent Masterson into the place to get the stolen property which included some men's sox and similar articles. He overheard Masterson ask the Chinaman for a bindle of "dope," pleading that he was leaving town and had no money. When Masterson came out, Sheriff Parsons took the bindle away from him, gave him a marked dollar and forced him to go back in and make a purchase.

With the evidence of a sale to go on, the sheriff then broke into the place and arrested Den, seizing more than 50 bindles of morphine and cocaine and the opium outfit which included pipe, "cooking" bowl and lamp, all set up and ready to use.

Den was taken to the county jail, along with Masterson who will face petit larceny charges. Den is now facing two narcotic charges, one in state court and one in federal court. He has been at liberty on bonds of \$200 on the state charge and \$2,500 on the federal count. Both arrests occurred in August.

July 19th, 1935

Year Old Body of Chinaman Being Shipped to China

Dillon, July 18.—The body of Quong Lun Kee, old-time Dillon character who died about a year ago, was shipped last night to Seattle and from there will be transported to his old home in Canton, China, for interment.

By order of members of his family, the body had been held here while funds were raised for its shipment back to China.

The aged Chinese was among the early residents of Dillon and at one time was a leader in Dillon's extensive Chinese colony, which has long since disappeared.

January 7th, 1938

Wife of Chinaman at Thompson Falls Killed in Bombing

Columbia Falls, Jan. 6.—Mar You, Chinese resident of Columbia Falls, has received word tht his wife and two sons, one 21 and one 19, were killed in Canton, China on Christmas day by a bomb dropped by a Japanese plane which completely demolished their home. Mar You came to Demersville on Flathead lake in 1890 and to Columbia Falls in 1892 when the railroad was built into the valley. Until 1918 he made regular pilgrimages to China every two or three years and married there on one of his trips.

January 12th, 1938

Lone Survivor of Chinese Village at Dillon Passes

"Whiskey Jim" Lee, last member of Dillon's once thriving Chinese colony, was found dead yesterday in his cabin by Charles Nelson, chief of police. When the aged Chinese failed to appear Sunday, neighbors called Nelson, who found him dead in his bed.

Known to everybody, "Whiskey Jim" was seen daily on the streets of Dillon up until the day of his death. When he first came to Dillon, some 25 years ago, Jim Lee was a prosperous, well-dressed Chinaman bent on the important mission of sending the bodies of six departed Chinamen back to the old country.

When his task was finished, Jim decided to stay in the Dillon Chinese settlement, which at that time was composed largely of Chinese, who had drifted away from Virginia City after the gold rush days. And in the succeeding years, he saw his countrymen drop by the wayside until he became the lone resident of Dillon's Chinatown.

Old-timers declare his nickname, "Whiskey Jim" was earned as the result of his continual visits to the wholesale liquor warehouse where he insisted on sampling the various whiskey barrels before he bought. Clerks began calling him "Whiskey Jim" because of sampling methods and the name stuck.

1930 U.S. Federal Census; Montana; Beaverhead County; City of Dillon; Roll #: T626_1252; Page: 11B; Enumeration District: 2; Image: 0035; Enumerated on April 16, 1930:

Residing at: 319 North Idaho Street, Dillon, Montana

LEE, Jim; head of household; male; Chinese; 67 years of age; single; born in China; both parents born in China; unable to read or write English; immigrated to U.S. in 1883; occupation: laborer--truck garden.

Mr. Lee's immediate neighbors are: Quon Long Kee; head of household; male; 77 years of age; single; Chinese; born in China; both parents born in China; neither speaks nor writes English; immigrated to U.S. in 1875; occupation: proprietor--hand laundry. Also, are Lite Chin; head of household; male; Chinese; 95 years of age; widowed; first married at 30 years of age; unable to speak or write English; immigrated to U.S. in 1863; occupation: none listed.

August 26th, 1938

Broadwater County Pioneer Tells of Seeing Hangings in Early Day Helena

Grim tales of hangings he witnessed in the '70's in Helena were recounted yesterday by W.T. (Tommy) Thompson of Broadwater county who, as a school boy in Last Chance gulch, saw at first hand how the grim law of the early West operated.

Mr. Thompson, who now owns a 350-acre farm near Townsend, saw the hanging "Peg Leg" Murphy in 1870 but recalls more distinctly the hanging of a Chinaman from famous old Hangman's Tree late in 1870.

Hung Three Days

He can't recall the name of the unfortunate Oriental but he does remember the body hung there for three days, "and it drew quite a crowd, too."

"This Chinaman," Mr. Thompson said yesterday, "killed a white man in a brawl in China town, confessed and was taken to Hangman's Tree and 'strung up.'"

"I was just a kid going to school then but I remember the Chinaman's wife used to bring food every day and place in his mouth. I guess she was feeding his spirit.

"The body remained hanging for three days as a lesson to the rest of the Chinese of the city. Other people drove out to Hangman's tree every evening in their carriages to see the body. No one seemed to think it was particularly horrible.

On the fourth day they cut down the body and gave it burial. The wife placed a lot of food on the grave was quickly eaten by some of the youngsters around town.

