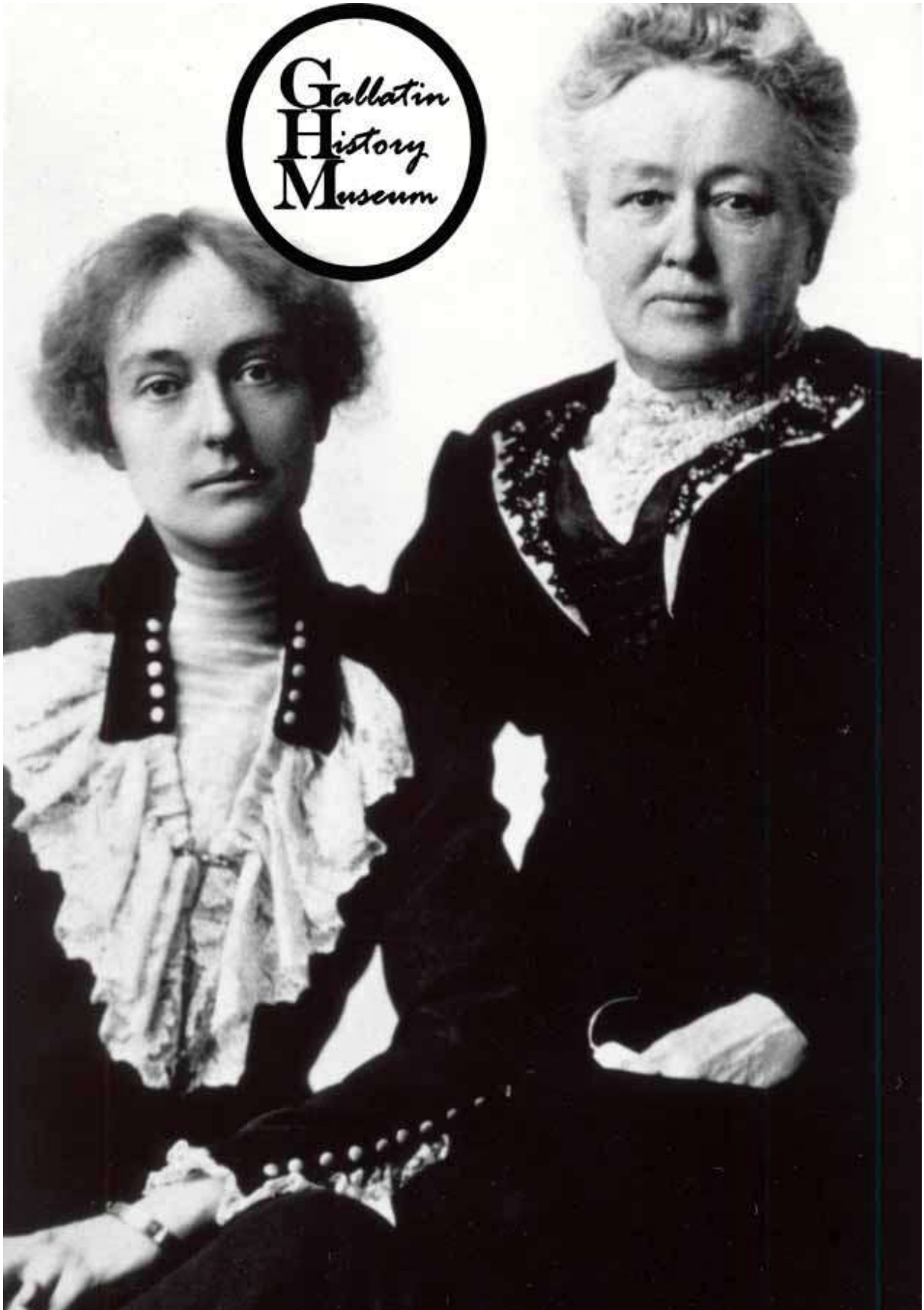


Sarah Tracy



Sarah Tracy and her daughter, Edna Tracy White.



Sarah Tracy and her daughter, Edna Tracy White.

## THE TRACYS

William H. Tracy was born in Ithaca, New York in 1838. He left home at age 19, for the West, and in Denver he served in federal Union military contingents during the first year of the Civil War. He came to Gallatin City in 1863, spent the winter of 1863-1864 in Virginia City, and in August 1864 was a founding member of the City of Bozeman. He took up a 40-acre land claim covering approximately the numbers 9 - 17 Main Street. He took additional land claims, and later platted three additions to the town.

He engaged in farming, in real estate sales, established an early brick yard, built a freighting business, and developed a large feed and seed store, first in Belgrade, then in Bozeman.

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Thursday, June 17. It has been raining nearly all day, and is very dark and gloomy.

There are quite a number of Indians coming into town today. A very rough looking set. I received a letter from Verona tonight.

"When I first came to Bozeman, the whole prairie south of town (in the vicinity of the present Methodist Church), seemed covered with Indian teepees. Indian ponies, squaws, papooses and dogs were everywhere. I was dreadfully afraid of them. They would peer in the windows if the doors were locked, or come flocking around the door begging for biscuits, soap, clothes, everything. One day a big Indian espied a large rain umbrella that I had brought with me from 'the States', and at once pestered me to trade it for a buffalo robe. He was so persistent that I at last, to get rid of him, made the trade. All day long he paraded up and down the street with the umbrella raised above his head. The next day his squaw had it, but she, becoming tired of it, brought it to the door and flung it on the floor shouting "heap of dirt, heap of dirt" in great disgust. She wanted me to trade back, but as I would not, she finally snatched the umbrella and stalked off with it."

Thursday, June 24. I worked all the forenoon washing and scouring dishes. Cooked some and did a little of everything.

Received two letters, and I wrote to Verona tonight.

We traded an umbrella with a squaw for a bed spread tonight.

"The tribes west of us passed through Bozeman every year on their way over to the Yellowstone to hunt and fish. All day they would be passing along Main Street to their camp on the river just east of town. The squaws, most of them with papooses on their backs, rode the ponies that were dragging the teepee poles. Next day they were all around the town and visited us all before they left. On their return we had the same display, and they would remain several days to trade with the settlers. Somewhat: Later the Crows were put on a reservation about eight miles from where Livingston now stands, and after that we saw the Indians only occasionally. (Actually the agency, often called Fort Parker, was being built in 1869, as Mrs. Tracy was writing. Because the white man moved rapidly into the upper Yellowstone, the Indians were moved to the present Columbus area in 1874.) Major Pease was the first agent at the reservation. All kinds of supplies were issued to the Indians, at first from a warehouse in Bozeman, but later at the agency. I remember Major Scully coming here one time when supplies were being issued. He gave several of the chiefs large white felt hats like he himself wore. They seemed immensely pleased, but at once cut out the tops before they wore them."

From the Journal of Warren Gillette concerning his trip to Yellowstone Park in 1870. Published as "The Quest of Warren Gillette," edited by Brian Cockhill, Montana, The Magazine of Western History, Summer, 1972.

August 21 (Sunday)

# Arriving in Bozeman

March 31, 1983

Mrs. W.H. Tracy was often asked in later years to relate her experiences in early Bozeman. She would tell about the excitement on June 5, 1869, when she arrived as a bride sitting beside her husband as he drove up with an extra flourish to the front steps of Guy House, the one first-class hotel. On going down to supper at 6 o'clock that night, they found every stool at the two long dining tables occupied by men, except for two women. Mr. and Mrs. Story occupied the one room in the hotel with a carpet on the floor.

A week later Gen. Willson came with his bride. Mrs. Tracy thought the men were to be excused for their excite-

ment whenever a woman arrived. After all, there were only a dozen or so in the community at that time. Mrs. Willson had the first piano and fairly charmed the citizenry by her playing and singing.

During the first summer that Mrs. Tracy was here, a severe epidemic spread among the children. This was indeed a sorrowful time; some days two little coffins would be carried into the church where the minister would try to speak words of comfort. Mrs. Willson would often assist the pastor with her beautiful voice lifted in the old familiar songs.

## SARAH JANE BESSEY TRACY

Born in Illinois in 1851 Sarah Jane Bessey married William H. Tracy in 1869. She came west with him on the steamboat "Nile" to Fort Benton, then overland to Bozeman in the summer of 1869.

Sarah Jane described her arrival in Bozeman in a speech she gave at a banquet in 1898:

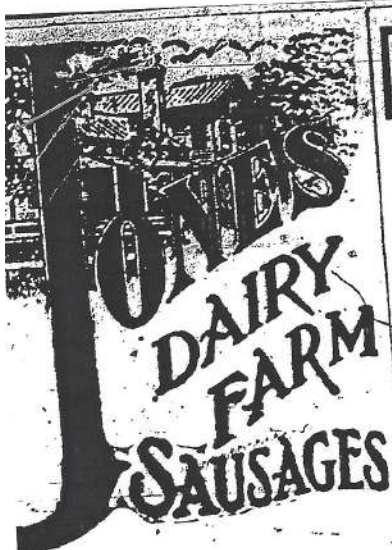
"In 1869, Bozeman had quite a series as it were, of brides. Several of the pioneers concluded that it was not good for men to be alone and started for the states to find a better half. Of course, this was quite an expensive trip and his fellow bachelors were anxious to see how his investment would "pan out". So Mr. Tracy was the first to arrive with his bride. I shall have to tell a little of my own experience.

"On a beautiful day in June we drove up to the "Guy House". Quite a crowd of men gathered around, of course to welcome Mrs. Tracy.

"When supper was served Mrs. Guy insisted that I take a seat by her at the table. Everybody was seated at two long tables, Mrs. Guy, Mrs. Story and I being the only ladies. It did look a bit curious (but we know that 'curiosity' thy name is woman).

"Mr. Guy told me afterward he had about seventy five extras for supper that night."

Sarah Jane was active in the women's service organizations of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and recorded the history of its Sunday School. She participated in the Order of the Eastern Star, the Women's Relief Corps of the Grand Army of the Republic, and the Rebekahs. She spent much of her time helping with the Tracy greenhouse business, located at the family home at Mendenhall and Tracy.



MADE FROM LITTLE PIG CORN FED PORK.  
 Receive regular express shipments. Let us have your standard order to be delivered immediately on arrival. Little Sausages Sausage Meat.

per Pkg. 35c  
 Wm. H. Rea & Co.  
 Phone 24

BOX OF CANDY—Brazil nuts cream, black and white whippings, Princess and many others. You can get them at—  
**SCHMIDT BROS.**  
 Phone 71-W

...but a large part of this ranch is suitable for grazing. Part of the ranch, however, was the original home of the late Alexander D. Weaver, a Gallatin county pioneer, and there are a number of splendid buildings on the place. Mrs. Weaver has resided on the ranch for several years, but it has been occupied by Mr. Mrs. Josiah Morgan, who will remain there in charge of the ranch for some time. Knedler, who expects to place about 400 head of fine stock on the ranch at once and add to the number in the course of time. Mrs. Weaver is making her home in Belgrade.

AT LYRIC TONIGHT.

# DEATH OF MRS. SARAH J. TRACY

One of the Early Pioneer Women of State and Widow of Pioneer Died Yesterday.

The death of Mrs. Sarah J. Tracy, which occurred at her home on West Mendenhall street Thursday, October 19, shortly after noon, removed one of Bozeman's most highly esteemed pioneer women, one who has been identified with various organizations in the city, and was known throughout the state in connection with part of her work. Mrs. Tracy was the widow of William H. Tracy, a pioneer who came to Montana in 1863 and was one of the early pioneers of Gallatin county. She was a devoted wife and mother, considering her duties to her home first and foremost, but she also found time to take part in the work that she felt was for the betterment of conditions in the community in which she lived.

For the past few years Mrs. Tracy has not been as vigorous as in former years, though her health has been exceptionally good for several months until a week before she died, when she was taken with an attack of acute indigestion, and complications developed due to her age. She has been under the care of a physician and trained nurse for the past few days, but it was known only to her most intimate friends as well as the family that her condition was critical.

Funeral services will be held at the First M. E. church on Central Avenue south at two o'clock, Saturday afternoon, and interment will be in the Bozeman cemetery.

Mrs. Tracy was Miss Sarah J. Bessey. She was born in Pecatonica, Ill., October 19, 1851, so she was 65 years old the day of her death. After graduating from high school Miss Bessey started out as a rural school teacher near Pecatonica, where she was most successful during two summer terms and in 1868 she taught a longer term of school during the winter months.

On April 5, 1869 she was married to William H. Tracy of Bozeman, and they started shortly afterward for their new home, traveling by railroad as far as Sioux City, Iowa, where they visited for a short time and then continued their wedding trip up the Missouri

## QUINCES

are fine for Jelly and Preserves. We have some nice ones at 3 pounds for 25c.

If you want apples to mix with them get a box for

# \$1.40

not large size but good and will suit you.

TRADE AND GET COUPONS

At Maxwell's  
 Phone 45

Tracy has lived in the house where she died, and her home has been the scene of many pleasant informal social affairs. She will be greatly missed by her family and friends in this home, and those who have known her in her community work will share the sorrow of her loved ones in their great bereavement.

## MAURER SISTERS AT THE BAND BENEFIT

The Commercial-Club band has secured the famous Maurer Sisters, readers and musicians, for an entertainment at the Bozeman Municipal theater, Monday night, October 23rd. They will be assisted by the band.

The band is now recognized as one of the best in the state and it is in need of more money to maintain and better its present standing. The receipts from the concert will be used to purchase music and instruments. A Marysville, Ohio, newspaper had the following to say regarding the Maurer Sisters:

Mrs. Tracy died at her home on West Mendenhall street, Bozeman, Oct 20, 1916 page 3

and hurry  
them at

**BROS.**

phone 71-W

at a large part of this ranch suitable for grazing. Part of it, however, was the original land of the late Alexander D. Gallatin county pioneer, and a number of splendid buildings on the place. Mrs. Weaver has lived on the ranch for several years but it has been occupied by Mr. Josiah Morgan, who will remain in charge of the ranch for a while, who expects to place 100 head of fine stock on the place and add to the number of the course of time. Mrs. Weaver is making her home in Belgrade.

#### AT LYRIC TONIGHT.

Persons who witness the showing of "Phantom" the newest Triangle release, in which Frank Keenan appears as star, will have a glimpse of Keenan, as his friends know him. In private life he has the reputation of being one of the best ballroom dancers in the country and the scenes in fashionable society will give him full opportunity to demonstrate.

#### MUST TO SPEAK AT SOCIAL SERVICE MEETING

The social service department of the women's club will meet this afternoon at 2 o'clock in the committee room at 121 M. C. A., the time of the meeting changed for this meeting in that Miss Mary Rust, the school teacher, may be present and give a talk to the women. She has been invited to make an effort that can be made by the social department of the club to cooperate with her in her important work. Edna L. Stone, chairman of the department, has a number of matters for consideration during the meeting, and a cordial invitation is extended to all women interested in the good of the community to be present at this meeting, whether they are members of the club or not.

#### HOMESTEAD ORDER.

Washington, Oct. 19.—A recent executive order opening a tract of 110,000 acres in Fresno, Monterey and San Benito counties, California, to homestead entry on Nov. 7, was amended so that some of the land will be opened Nov. 15 and the remainder on Dec. 2.

case of a physician and trained nurse for the past few days, but it was known only to her most intimate friends as well as the family that her condition was critical.

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On April 5, 1869 she was married to William H. Tracy of Bozeman, and they started shortly afterward for their new home, traveling by railroad as far as Sioux City, Iowa, where they visited for a short time and then continued their wedding trip up the Missouri river on the steamboat Nile to Fort Benton on the Missouri river, this being at that time the head of navigation. The late Captain Grant Marsh was captain of the steamer, and in her records Mrs. Tracy has left a most interesting account of this trip, and at one time she wrote an interesting account of the brides who came to Bozeman in 1869, of which she was one.

Six children were born to Mr. and Mrs. Tracy, the oldest three dying when they were small. Mr. Tracy passed away in Bozeman, April 15, 1908. The children surviving the mother are Albert, Frank and (Edna) Mrs. Jack White, all living in Bozeman and being with the mother during her last illness. Mrs. Nellie Fransham of Bozeman is a great niece of Mrs. Tracy. She leaves a host of warm friends, not only among the pioneers but among those who have known her during later years.

Mrs. Tracy has been closely identified with the Methodist Episcopal church since her arrival in Bozeman, and she taught in the Sunday school for several years. She was a charter member of Lily of the Valley chapter of the Order of Eastern Star, and has served as grand worthy matron for the state organization. She has also been identified with the Rebekahs and for many years has been an active member of the Women's Relief Corps. She was an honorary member of the Pioneers' Society of Gallatin County and has contributed to the program many times at the annual gatherings of this organization. For some time she served as historian in the Housekeepers' club and gave many interesting sketches of pioneer days at the meetings.

For more than thirty years Mrs.

She will be greatly missed by her family and friends in this home, and those who have known her in her community work will share the sorrow of her loved ones in their great bereavement.

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A Marysville, Ohio, newspaper had the following to say regarding the Maurer Sisters:

"The Maurer Sisters played to an immense audience this afternoon. The musicians are worthy the flattering notice they received in advance. 'Never an adverse criticism on their work' is a tribute given the Maurers by the Chautauqua bureau. It seems the organization stands alone in this absolute freedom from harsh comment."

#### MAYOR OF GUELPH ONTARIO VISITING SISTER IN CITY

Harry Mahoney, mayor of Guelph, Ont., accompanied by his wife and his wife's sister, Miss Marjory Marshall of Portland, Me., arrived in Bozeman Wednesday to visit at the home of Director F. B. Linfield of the Montana experiment station and his family for a short time. Mr. Mahoney is a brother of Mrs. Linfield. He and the members of his party have been visiting in Victoria, B. C., and at various coast points. They found fine weather until they reached Bozeman, and were somewhat surprised to find snow here. Had they reached this city a few days sooner they would have found as fine weather as anywhere else, the snow storm having come somewhat suddenly after some delightful fall weather.

#### FRENCH PROGRESS.

Paris, Oct. 19.—In the fighting south of the river Somme in France, the French troops have made fresh progress between Biaches and La Maisonnette near Peronne, according to the French official communication issued tonight. North of the Somme a German attack on the French lines north and east of Sall-Saillisel was repulsed.

See 1st page



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RESIDENCES (BOZEMAN)  
W. H. Tracy residence, nw corner Tracy  
& Mendenhall, Bozeman, circa 1880s.  
Greenhouse at left, Jobe residence at Tracy  
right. Notes by T. B. Story on re-  
verse. BUILT 1882 201 W. Mendenhall at

**GALLATIN COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY**

317 West Main Street Bozeman, Montana 59715

RESIDENCES (BOZEMAN)  
RESIDENCES BY ADDRESS





EXCHANGE — R. C. Wetherell, vice president of Empire Savings and Loan Association and manager of the firm's Bozeman office, and Mrs. Edna Tracy White make official the transfer of the White property at Tracy and Mendenhall to the loan association in an exchange of deed for a check. The property will be the site an Empire Savings building.

## Savings Firm Buys Pioneer Home for Office

Empire Savings and Loan Association has purchased the Edna Tracy White residence at the corner of Mendenhall and Tracy as the site for an office building now in the planning stage by the financial concern.

In announcing the purchase, R. C. Wetherell, vice president and Bozeman office manager for Empire Savings and Loan, said, "Plans are being formulated for the early development of the new building." No time schedule was announced.

The home on the 224 by 148 foot parcel of land was built by Mrs. White's father, W. H. Tracy in 1882 and is one of the city's residential landmarks. It was once a center of the town's social activities and a showplace

of the community. The Tracys were pioneer residents of Bozeman and one of the early business families.

Wetherell said no details of the planned structure are yet available, but according to terms of the acquisition every effort will be made to retain trees and landscaping on the property.

Consideration of the transaction was not announced.

The Bozeman office of Empire Savings and Loan has been in the Kenyon building at Mendenhall and Black since 1959. At that time Pioneer Building and Loan Association of Bozeman was merged into Empire Savings and Loan. The Bozeman firm was the second oldest savings and loan association west of the Mis-

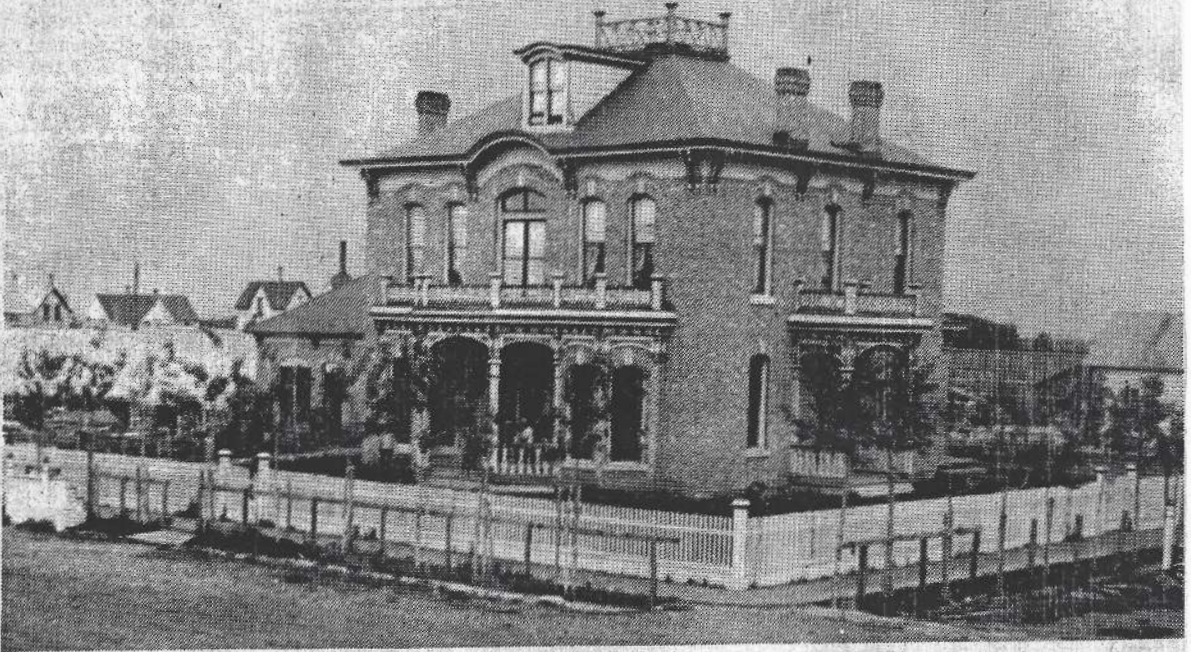
issippi River. It was founded in 1889, shortly after a similar business was organized in Helena.

Tracy was one of the city's founders and businessmen. He came to the Gallatin Valley in 1864 and is said to have raised the first garden produce. He received a government grant of 113.4 acres of land, the title to which was signed in June, 1872, by President Ulyssess S. Grant.

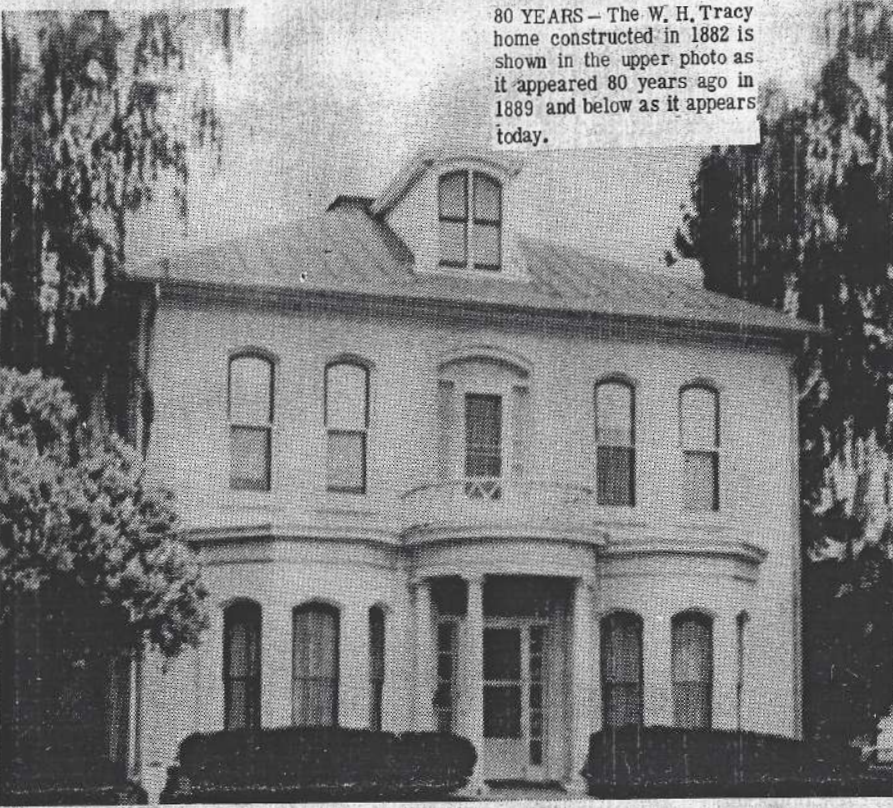
The property which Empire Savings acquired is a part of the original grant. Until the sale was made Friday, the land and the house had remained in the Tracy family, through Mrs. White, from the date it was given to private ownership by the fed-

eral government.

The house was designed and constructed by W. H. Babcock, also one of the city's early businessmen. Bricks were said to have been manufactured by Tracy.



80 YEARS - The W. H. Tracy home constructed in 1882 is shown in the upper photo as it appeared 80 years ago in 1889 and below as it appears today.



# Historic City Landmark Razed

By Roxa Crowe

Have you ever witnessed the destruction of an 89-year-old community landmark?

Such a scene was observed this week when the old house on the corner of Tracy and Mendenhall was demolished to provide space for the erection of the new Empire Federal Savings and Loan Building.

Lifting its huge shovel the tractor placed it precisely on the trunk of the giant pine and shoved.

The earth heaved up the roots of a magnificent pine, tossing it on top of a mass of bricks splintered wood, and crumpled sheets of roofing - the pile of splinters and bricks that had once been the Tracy mansion.

Built in 1882, the Tracy home was erected by one of the city's founders, William H. Tracy.

The house was residence for the Tracy family until 1966 points out Mrs. Edna Tracy White. "It was built by my father who came here in 1864.

"At that time, he and another man, W. J. Beall, lived in a cabin about where the library is now with a garden in back of the present-day McDonald's store. They both were there when the town was established.

In 1869 Tracy returned

to Illinois where he married my mother, Sarah Jane Bessey. She returned with him as a bride of 17. They came up the Missouri River by steamboat bring with them a spring wagon."

On arrival at Fort Benton they bought a team of mules and came overland from there to Bozeman bringing their household items with them.

The first home was built on Main Street between Tracy and Black (where the Gambles store is now).

"I don't think the streets were even laid out then," Mrs. White comments. In 1882, on Tracy's Second Addition to Bozeman, the big house was built with bricks that Tracy made in his brick yard.

The Avant Courier of Thursday, Dec. 14, 1882 carried this description:

"Mr. W. H. Tracy last week moved into his new residence on the corner of Tracy and Mendenhall streets. The residence is one of the finest in Montana and very substantially built. Mr. Tracy is to be complimented on his enterprise in erecting so handsome a structure. No better residence has been built in Montana."

"It was one of the largest houses in town at that time," Mrs. White states. "Many times they took care of people who came to Bozeman and were finding a place to

live

"The house was always the temporary home of the old-time Montana Methodist ministers who came. Van Orsdel, Iliff and Riggin were the three ministers."

In the winter of 1864-65 Tracy first moved to Gallatin County and settled on three forty-acre tracts in what is now the City of Bozeman.

Farming and stock-growing were his main concern although he handled real estate, dealing only in his own properties and platting three additions to the City of Bozeman.

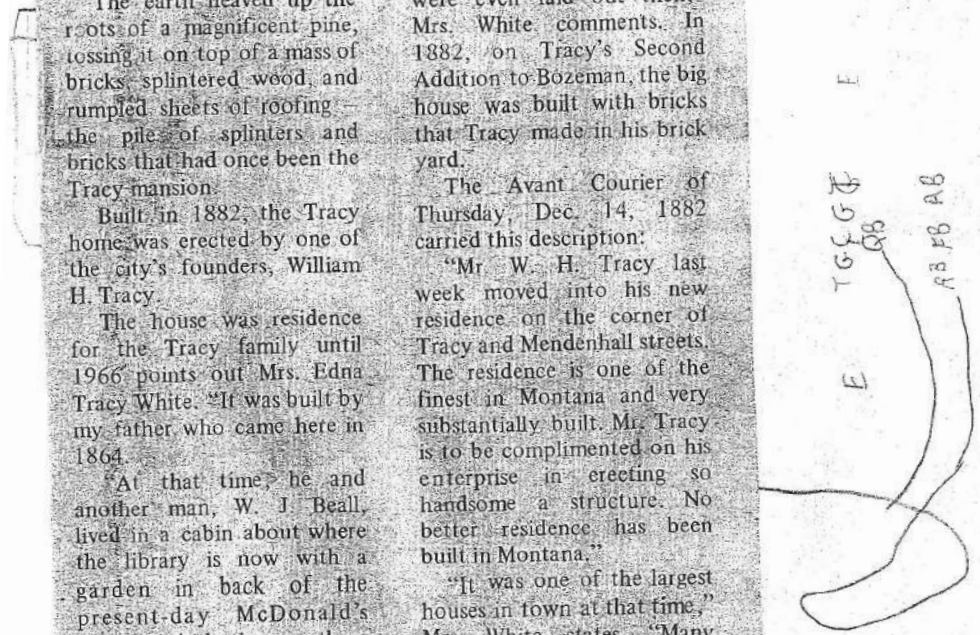
In the seventies, Tracy engaged in the manufacture of bricks. By 1882 his brick kilns on the land north of town produced 350,000

bricks, and in 1883 they produced one million.

For more than 12 years he ran a general merchandise store at 11 E. Mendenhall.

Freighting was another one of Tracy's enterprises, hauling from Corinne, Utah and other railheads.

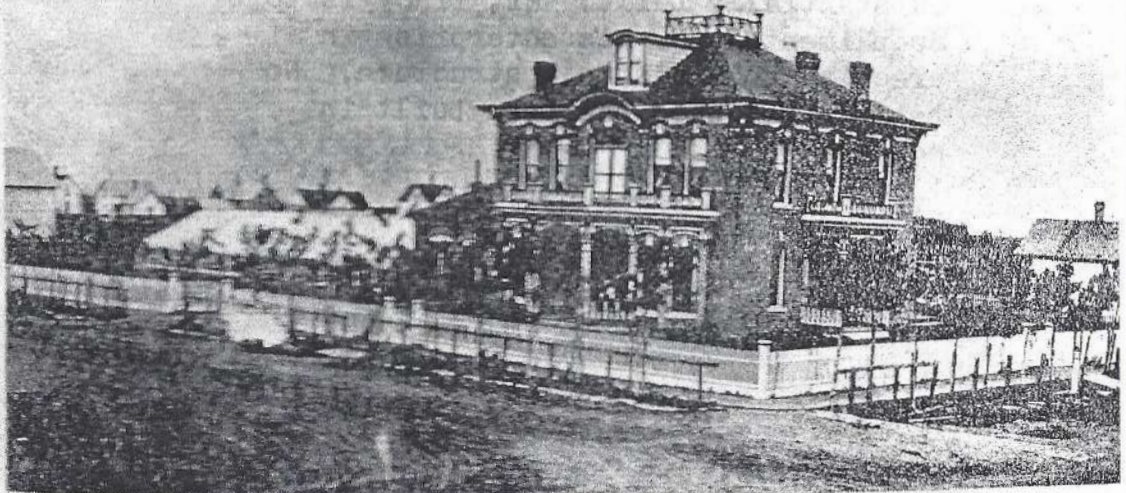
"The barns and bu house were catty-corner the house where the Chambers Fisher parking lot is," Mrs. White notes.



When Mrs. Beall

BOZEMAN - 1869

THE DIARY AND REMINISCENCES  
OF MRS. WILLIAM H. (SARAH J. BESSEY) TRACY



Publication of the Gallatin County  
Historical Society, 1985

The Tracy home, built in 1882.

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BOZEMAN IN 1869

THE DIARY AND REMINISCENCES

OF

MRS. WILLIAM H. (SARAH J. BESSEY) TRACY

Publication of the Gallatin County  
Historical Society, 1985

GALLATIN COUNTY  
HISTORICAL SOCIETY  
317 West Main  
Bozeman, MT 59715

## THE TRACYS

William H. Tracy was born in Ithaca, New York in 1838. He left home at age 19, for the West, and in Denver he served in federal Union military contingents during the first year of the Civil War. He came to Gallatin City in 1863, spent the winter of 1863-1864 in Virginia City, and in August 1864 was a founding member of the City of Bozeman. He took up a 40-acre land claim covering approximately the numbers 9 - 17 Main Street. He took additional land claims, and later platted three additions to the town.

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Sarah Jane Bessey was born in Pecatonica, Illinois, and was married to William H. Tracy, 14 years her senior, April 5, 1869. Her diary tells of the river trip to Montana, and her first six months in Bozeman. She describes moving into their first home at about 17 East Main, the location for many years of the Rea and the Modern Grocery. In 1882 the Tracys built one of the impressive homes of the town at the northwest corner of Tracy and Mendenhall. Four of the six Tracy children survived to adulthood: Elmer, Albert, Frank S., and Edna B. Mr Tracy died in 1908 resulting from an accident.

Mrs. Tracy died October 19, 1916, on her sixty-fifth birthday.

Edna married Jack J. White, a successful building contractor, and the Whites lived in the family home until Mrs. White moved to Hillcrest in 1966.

Mrs. White gave a great deal of encouragement to cultural developments in Bozeman - libraries, museums, historical societies - and on occasion entertained planning groups in her home. One evening she read portions of her mother's diary, which provided a rare view of an early year of the town. We talked of making a copy which might be available in the library, but did nothing about it.

Hearing that Mrs. White was ill, and knowing of her advanced age and frail condition, I telephoned her one morning asking about the possibility of making a copy. She replied immediately, "Why don't you come for it, do what you would like with it, and place the original in the University Library?" I went within the hour. She seemed to be pleased that arrangements were made for its safekeeping; the notebook was small, and could easily have been lost. She died about two months later.

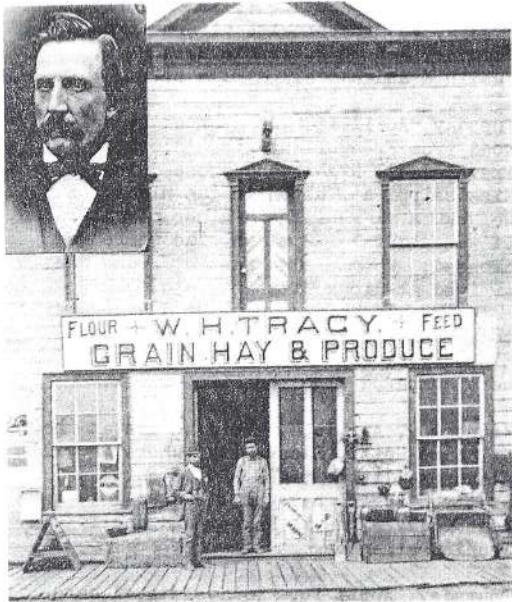
The diary was transcribed and the original is in Special Collections in the University Library. Years ago Mrs. White gave me copies of papers which her mother had given to school classes and church groups. Parts of these are used here.

An appropriate place to make the diary available to the people of Gallatin County seemed to be as a publication of the Gallatin County Historical Society. Edna would have been deeply interested in this organization. During her visit to Bozeman in the summer of 1985, Mrs. Irene McDonald Cannon of Stevensville, who grew up in the White home, and can speak for the White Family, also felt that such a publication would be appropriate.

Here, then, is "Bozeman in 1869".

Merrill G. Burlingame  
July 20, 1985

THE DIARY



William H. Tracy, born May 3, 1838, Tompkins Co., N.Y. Learned machinist trade at age 18 at Elmira. Assayed mining in Colorado to no particular profit, so came to site of old Gallatin City in 1863. May 1st of that year, became first to turn the soil in this valley and in State of Montana. He had reached Mont. Territory in 1862. Was wholesale dealer in liquors, grain, feed and agricultural implements, as well as freighting and farming. Freightied from Corinne, Utah, and other railheads. In Gallatin City, 1863, in Indian attack he lost all his possessions and was wiped out again while mining at Bevins Gulch. In 1865 came to Bozeman and established store at 11 E. Main. In 1882 his brick kilns on land north of town produced 350,000 bricks; one million in 1883. Erected home at 1 West Mendenhall in 1882, first home on north side of east Main near store; had commercial greenhouse at 1 West Mendenhall, too.

Pectonica, Illinois  
Sunday, April 4, 1869

Today we went down to Irwins - Verona, Charley and I. It was very muddy, but we had a good visit. Uncle Ephriam's folks were there.

(Verona and Charley were sister and brother of Sarah. Charley later came to Montana, and engaged in mining in Maiden for a time. Uncle Ephriam was Mrs. Bessey's brother.)

Monday, April 5. Today happens to be the eventful day of my life. I was married to William Tracy today - the man of my choice.

We went up to Freeport in a carriage. It was very muddy and we did not arrive at the Howard House until about five o'clock.

We were married at the Howard House in Freeport by the Reverend Mr. Carey at eight o'clock in the evening. Stayed there all night.

Tuesday, April 6. We came home from Freeport today. Jane and Elijah met us here to congratulate us.

Wednesday, April 7. Will went to Rockford today and I washed. We all went to town in the afternoon - and all of us had our pictures taken.



Thursday, April 8. We all went down to Elijah's today, and were very much disappointed by Will's not coming home. I bought Edna a dress and me a balmoral and several other things. Sarah Sumner and Irwin were there to supper.

(Edna was another sister for whom Sarah's daughter was named. A balmoral was a "figured woolen petticoat worn next to the dress".)

Friday, April 9. Will came home from Rockford today and brought me a new cloak and mother a new dress. Mother bought me a new belt, black kid gloves, a new dress and a casset.

Saturday, April 10. Were at Elijah's all night, and had a good visit. I got Sumner's and Aunt Cynthia's pictures.

Sunday, April 11. Today we came from Elijah and Jane came with us. Anna and Uncle Ephriam were over. Uncle Ezra's folks were here and Irwin and Sarah and Jennie Patterson, and Mr. and Mrs. Hollenback.

Monday, April 12. Today we started for our home in Montana. Left the depot in Pecatonica at three in the afternoon. Parted with a great number of my friends and relatives and arrived at Freeport at four.

It is very hard to part with friends, and worst of all to leave my dear parents, and sisters and brothers and home.

I received three photographs, one from Nettie K, from Hettie T, and one from Will H, and the promise of some from G.V., Tommy W, Jennie P, Jennie E, Anna T, Justin K and Randall & Ella B.

Tuesday, April 13. We started by railroad from Freeport at six o'clock. Traveled all night, and crossed the Mississippi at Fulton in the night. But we had a view of the "Father of Waters". It was about 1-1/2 miles wide where we crossed. We ate breakfast at Boone, and arrived at Sioux City at 7 o'clock.

We passed through a beautiful country today - saw several Indians, and the Missouri River. It looks very small here compared with the Mississippi.

Wednesday, April 14. Here we are at the St. Elmo Hotel, Sioux City, where we will stay some little time. It is quite a pretty city. I have written two letters home today - one to Father and one to Jennie Patterson.

Thursday, April 15. I have stayed here at the St. Elmo House all day. Saw a steamboat start up the river. I visited with Mrs. Barringer today. I like her very much.

It has been quite a stormy day, and is rather cold tonight.

Will wrote a letter to Jane today, and I wrote one to Ellen Burch. I am not homesick any yet.

Friday, April 16. Quite a warm and pleasant day. After dinner Will and I went

down to the river where we saw two steam-boats - one under repair, and the other will sail on Sunday. A vessel arrived this afternoon from St. Louis.

We had some pictures taken downtown - two of Will and I taken together, one for Mother and one for Jane. And I had one taken alone for Will.

The St. Elmo is a very good hotel. Plenty to eat and drink, but not very good beds, and the pillows are stuffed with hair.

Saturday, April 17. The wind blows very hard today. Will has written two letters and I have written one. We sent our photographs off.

The Nile arrived here last night. I have been visiting with Mrs. Barringer and Mrs. Marsh today, and the remainder of the time have been in our room with Will for company.

(Mrs. Marsh was the wife of the well known Captain Grant Marsh, who was in charge of the Nile. Grant and the Nile had been sent on a government Indian mission later in the summer of 1868, leaving St. Louis October 15. The boat was frozen in about four miles south of the present Chamberlain, South Dakota, with the entire crew remaining there all winter. When the river opened the boat proceeded rapidly to St. Louis, and is now on the way upstream again. In 1868 the Nile had been the fourth steamer to reach Fort Benton, and in 1869 it was third.)

Sunday, April 18. A very pleasant day. We have been to the Episcopal Church today. I had never attended this church before and the service was quite new and interesting.

We have eaten dinner - we had baked meat, fresh fish, potatoes, beans, green corn, tomatoes, soup, pudding, jelly, ice cream, peach and blackberry pie, and plenty of nice cake.

It commenced raining about three o'clock and we have had quite a thunder shower.

Will has written two letters today and I have written one to Julia.

Monday, April 19. Quite cool and windy all day - a very backward spring - the hills around Sioux City do not begin to look green in the least.

Went a walking in the afternoon. Went aboard two different steamers - one by the name of the Huntsville, which is to sail for Benton on the 21st. Only one lady passenger. We do not think we will sail on this boat. Then we went and visited the Steamer Nile. There were some ladies on the boat that wish us to wait and go with them. On our return went into Kink's Store and bought some dress lining. Got a new parasol and returned to the St. Elmo.

Tuesday, April 20. I went down town with Mrs. Barringer this morning. Returned home, ate dinner, and Will and I went down town and had two pictures taken.

I cut out and fitted my dress today and sewed some.

Wednesday, April 21. It is very cold and windy today. Dust is flying in clouds, and it is impractical to go down town. I wrote to Mother and Elizabeth, Will wrote to Peter Hamlin.

Will bought an express wagon, and tickets to go on the Steamer Nile as far as Benton on the Missouri. The Huntsville left for Benton today.

I sewed on my new dress most all day. I expect to wear it some going up the river.

Thursday, April 22. Today we went down town and I bought me a nice bonnet, gave ten dollars for it - and some false hair, but it is too dark and does not suit me. I will take it back.

This afternoon the wind blows a perfect whirlwind and I have stayed in my room most all the time. Will bought eight Waverley's Novels to read on the boat.

Friday, April 23. It is very cold this morning. The Nile is at the wharf loading. We expect to go aboard tomorrow. Will has been down town today - on the boat and saw the Officers' Ladies. They think they will go to Benton for pleasure. He also bought me two new Sea Shells.

I went down town and bought me a new chignon (night gown), a new linen collar and a pair of cuffs. I have written to Aunt Betsey Greene today, and pieced four blocks for my Log Cabin quilt. Mrs. Smith and Mrs. Barringer gave me some pieces of their dresses.

Saturday, April 24. It is a very pleasant day. We came on board the boat. There are two ladies on board and another lady and two children came from the cars this evening. Mrs. Smith and Mrs. Barringer came down with us. We got a letter from home tonight. I went up town with Mrs. Marsh and got me a sun bonnet.

Sunday, April 25. This morning four more women came on board. There are eight lady passengers and four children. The boat started about noon today and we are now fast sailing on the Missouri River.

The boat just stopped at a wood yard in Nebraska and loaded wood. We have a nice comfortable state room, and will enjoy ourselves as best we can. I have been on deck nearly all the time since we started.

Monday, April 26. It is very cold and rainy today. The boat ran all night. We just passed the wreck of a boat called the Urilda. There were several persons on the shore.

Tuesday, April 27. It is very cold and windy. We have not traveled 20 miles today, but have been fast on a sand bar 4 miles below Yankton. We reached Yankton about sundown and we all went on shore and saw the town. I have written a letter to Jane. There are quite a number of Indians in Yankton.

Wednesday, April 28. Early this morning we passed the wreck of the Antelope. It

burned 20 miles from Yankton. It was a sad sight to see the wreck of what had once been a noble vessel. There were three lives lost. Fortunately it was not heavily loaded with passengers. We passed an Indian village and saw a great number of Indians - squaws and warriors.

Thursday, April 29. Today we arrived at Ft. Randall. We passed an Indian settlement of several hundred Indians. A great number were on shore to see the boat. We stopped to unload flour. Tonight we passed a boat called the Peninah. I wrote a letter to Nett and to Anna.

(Fort Randall was some 50 miles above Yankton, near the site of the present Randall Dam. It was established in 1856, and for years was the most remote military post on the lower Missouri.)

Friday, April 30. This morning it is cold and rainy and we are all delighted to stay in the cabin.

We passed the Huntsville and the Andrew Ackley, and met the Hiram Woods coming down.

I pieced four blocks for my quilt today. Will is sick, and also the mate.

Saturday, May 1. Today we came up with three boats - in the morning we passed the H. M. Shreve. It was detained to bury the engineer.

We also passed the Importer and the Big Horn, and they are now several miles behind. I finished my dress today.

Sunday, May 2. It is a warm and most beautiful day. We went on shore today to a hut where lives a squaw and a Frenchman and their family. I wrote to Verona and Mother.

Monday, May 3. A nice warm and comfortable day. We saw nothing of importance. I cut out a dress and sewed some on it.

Tuesday, May 4. We have been stuck fast on a sand bar most all day. Had to unload some freight. The Importer went past us.

Wednesday, May 5. It is very warm and pleasant today. We passed the Importer again. Stopped at a settlement of several hundred Indians. We arrived at Ft. Sully this evening and I sent a letter home. We left the Mate here with the doctor. He is a very sick man. Our boat and the Importer stayed here all night.

(Fort Sully was built about four miles south of the present Pierre, South Dakota, by General Sully in 1863. In 1866 it was rebuilt about 30 miles north of Pierre on a site now covered by the Oahe Dam Reservoir.)

Thursday, May 6. We got the start on the Importer, and came to a very large settlement of Indians, the largest we have yet passed.

Friday, May 7. Today we passed the North Alabama, a boat that left Sioux City eleven

days before we did. The passengers were very tired, and all anxious to get on the Nile. They had been on the river twenty-two days and were perhaps 1/4 of the distance to Benton. We came in sight of two boats tonight.

Saturday, May 8. The wind blows a gale today. This morning we passed two boats. One, The Only Chance, which left Sioux City the 12th of April, and the other, the Cora, which started a day or two after.

We saw a large herd of antelope on the bank, several hundred of them.

Sunday, May 9. This morning we came to an Indian settlement of several thousand Indians. We got on a sand bar and were obliged to unload freight and stay all day. The Importer passed us.

Monday, May 10. It is very cold and windy today. The Cora came up with us this morning but did not pass.

This afternoon we got on another sand bar, and the Cora helped us off. We went on shore to an old deserted log house which the Captain and the crew cut down for wood.

Tuesday, May 11. It is cold and rainy this morning. We saw quite a number of antelope swimming across the river. The men fired and killed ten of them.

Today is the Captain's birthday, and we had a splendid dinner & dance in the evening in his honor.

Wednesday, May 12. Today we arrived at Ft. Rice where I sent a letter to Verona.

I gave Mrs. Marsh our photograph, and Mrs. Hoyt gave me one of hers.

We came up with the Cora and the Importer again. We all stopped at the same wood yard all night.

(Fort Rice was built by General Alfred Sully in the summer of 1864, some eight miles by land south of the present Bismarck, North Dakota. Fort Rice was about 240 miles from Fort Sully.)

Thursday, May 13. Today we got along finely. We had quite a race with the Importer, but came out second best.

We arrived at Fort Stevenson this evening, having traveled 80 miles today. We did not land at this place.

(Fort Stevenson, built in 1867, was about 100 miles above Fort Rice. The race, no doubt explained the unusual mileage.)

Friday, May 14. Today we came as far as Fort Berthold. It is quite a pleasant day, and I sewed all day in our state-room.

We saw a great number of Indians at the Fort - the round houses in which they live, and a great number of Indian graves.

(Fort Berthold was one of the more important up-river forts. General Sully had left a military detachment there in 1864. The distance to Fort Buford, near the mouth of

the Yellowstone, was still 200 miles away.)

Saturday, May 15. Today it is very cold and disagreeable. This morning we passed the Cora and the Fannie Barker.

We all stayed in the cabin and sewed, and for a wonder had no quarrels. I pieced four blocks for my quilt.

Sunday, May 16. A very warm and pleasant day. It is just three weeks ago since we left Sioux City and we are now probably but half way to Benton.

We stopped at a wood yard where we all went on shore and had a nice day. The Cora came up with us but did not pass.

Monday, May 17. We came to a wood yard where we saw Indians, negroes and white men. One Indian woman had a negroe husband and two children that were queer specimens of mixed blood.

We arrived at Fort Buford today. It is the largest fort we have passed. There are about 180 soldiers stationed here, two or three ladies that live with their husbands, and several Indians. We passed the mouth of the Yellowstone and Ft. Union.

(Fort Buford was built in 1866 to support the commercial trade of near-by Fort Union, and to stabilize the trade and travel on the upper Missouri and Yellowstone Rivers.)

Tuesday, May 18. It is a beautiful, warm and nice day. We came to a wood pile where there were two squaws and several white men. The women invited us into their houses.

In the evening we came to a wood yard where there were lots of hideous looking Indians.

Wednesday, May 19. Today we saw a herd of three buffalo, but the men did not kill any of them as they were some distance from the boat. We saw two beavers swimming in the water.

We passed a place where the Indians murdered seven white men and left them on the bank until a boat came along and the crew buried them.

Thursday, May 20. We saw a great number of buffalo today. We came to a small rapids where we had to draw the boat with ropes.

We arrived at Ft. Peck, an Indian trading post. It is a nice comfortable place. Several white men and a number of squaws live here. They had some splendid furs which they buy from the Indians. Our people bought two bear skins - one a grizzly and the other a black bear.

The Steward bought some buffalo meat. We stayed here a long time and walked all around the fort. We are now about five hundred miles from Benton.

Friday, May 21. A beautiful morning. We had buffalo meat for breakfast, the first I ever tasted. We saw a great

many buffalo, some antelopes and a beaver.

Saturday, May 22. We arrived at Muscle Shell, a small new trading village at the mouth of that river. Unloaded a great deal of freight at this point. We saw a great number of skins. Also ten Indian scalps that were taken by the white men here in a fight May 8th, and twelve Indian skulls prepared by Prof. Andrews to be sent to Washington to the Indian Bureau.

In the fight the Indians scalped the only white woman here. She was wounded, but has recovered. We saw a number of Indian relics - a medicine bag & poles to drive evil spirits away, pickled ears, the cape and armor of the chief who was slain and scalped in the fight, and several other things.

Sunday, May 23. We met the Deer Lodge early this morning. It was crowded with soldiers. We traveled through beautiful scenery, the highest mountains we have passed since we left home.

Monday, May 24. Today we saw more nice scenery. Came up with the Importer which was fast in the Dauphin Rapids. We were obliged to unload freight and the men were out in the cold rain until two in the morning.

Tuesday, May 25. We found ourselves in the same place this morning that we were since three yesterday afternoon.

The men worked most all night. Some carried freight in the small boat, where part of the time they were in the river

up to their waists and the rain pouring in torrents, while others were trying to move the boat - all in vain until after noon.

Wednesday, May 26. It is a rainy morning, but cleared off this afternoon. We passed some beautiful scenery today - high mountains covered with pine trees with flocks of mountain sheep feeding on the slopes. We saw four deer and a wolf.

Thursday, May 27. Another rainy morning. We passed Maria River this morning, which is forty miles from Benton.

We arrived at Benton about ten o'clock. Saw Peter who had six letters for us.

Friday, May 28. We find ourselves this morning in Fort Benton. I wrote letters home this morning. We went to see Peter - he is keeping Bachelor Hall and a desolate looking hall it is.

Will bought a span of mules for \$400 and we will probably start tomorrow. We are staying on the boat.

Saturday, May 29. We went down to the Hotel to see Mrs. Hays. We started about 11:00 o'clock, and traveled across the prairie about 28 miles where we stayed all night. There were five or six men and one half breed woman. We had very good fare, considering the place and circumstances. Bill, six dollars for supper and breakfast.

Sunday, May 30. We started out this morning about 7 o'clock. Traveled about

36 miles when we came to a nice little river.

We stopped and rested and took lunch. We then traveled to Sun River where we crossed the Toll Bridge. Came 17 miles further and had splendid accommodations for the night and paid eight dollars for supper and breakfast.

Monday, May 31. We traveled about thirty miles today. Saw some very high mountains covered with everlasting snow. Passed a ranch where a man named Warner lived. He had two tame otters. They were the nicest pets I ever saw, and as tame as kittens. He had a box in the water for them.

We stayed at Mr. Kennedy's and had very nice accommodations. There were two ladies here. We paid six dollars for our night's lodging. We are now 38 miles from Helena City.

Tuesday, June 1. This morning we passed through a Canyon about 13 miles long, Wolf Creek Canyon it is called. This road is through the mountains.

In some places the mountains were several thousand feet high on both sides. In other places a high mountain on one side and the river on the other. The mountains are covered with pine trees. We arrived at Helena about 7 o'clock and stopped at the Planters Hotel. We had a very nice supper and a good bed to sleep in. We saw some miners at work as we came into the city.

Wednesday, June 2. We started from Helena about 11 o'clock and traveled over a beautiful road in sight of snow-capped mountains

all the way. About six o'clock we came to a station called Radersburgh, a very nice house, splendid accommodations and nice fare. It is by far the best house we have seen since we left home. Yesterday we passed over several miles of toll road. It is said the road cost \$62,000, and it is certainly a very nice road.

(The "nice house" was probably the Central Hotel opened by M. A. Park in 1866. The toll road was that constructed by King & Gillette, adjacent to and through Wolf Creek Canyon, reputed to be the best constructed and maintained toll road in the Territory.)

Thursday, June 2. We started at about 7 o'clock this morning. Passed over a very mountainous country. We crossed the Missouri River on a ferry. After traveling 35 miles we found ourselves snugly encoined at Judge Campbell's, thirty miles from Bozeman. He has a very pretty and accomplished daughter, Fannie, with whom I became acquainted, also with Mrs. Culver and Mrs. Fredricks, all living in Gallatin City.



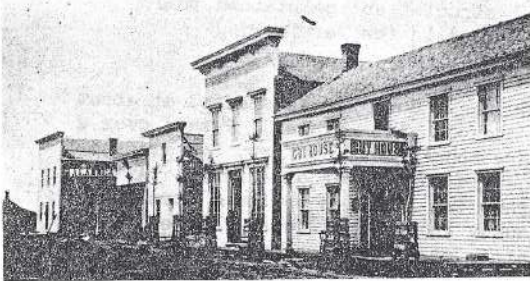
WE ARRIVE IN BOZEMAN CITY

Friday, June 4. We started early this morning and drove through a delightful country - a portion of the Gallatin Valley.

We arrived at Bozeman City about six o'clock, and stopped at Guy's Hotel.

Bozeman! The long looked for city, for which we have traveled 2,000 miles. And glad enough we were to see it, for we were completely tired out.

We received letters from home - one from Verona & Mother, one from Will's sister in Michigan, also one from Virginia City.



The Guy House, built in 1868 on the N.W. corner of Main and Black. Later it became the Northern Pacific Hotel.

(The Guy House was "a large two-story log house on the northwest corner of Main and Black Streets where the Story Block now stands." It was built by John C. Guy, a several term county sheriff. The log structure was later covered with board siding, and is usually described as a frame building.)

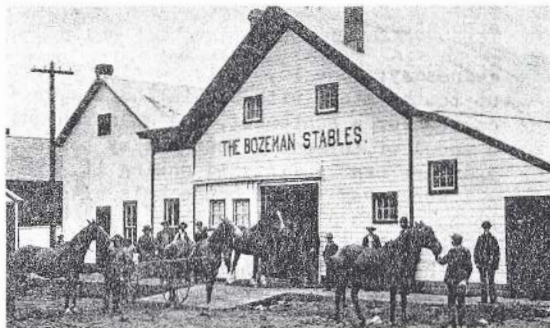
(In the Bozeman Chronicle of August 10, 1954, marking the 90th Anniversary of the founding of Bozeman, an article "Pioneer Woman Tells of Early Home Life", contains excerpts from Mrs. Tracy's speeches. Sections in quotations which follow are from this source.)

"Our last stop before reaching Bozeman was old Gallatin City where we spent the night at Campbell's Station (now on the road to Trident from No. 10 Highway). Next morning Mr. Tracy brought one of the trunks into the house for me to get out better clothes to wear when we should arrive in Bozeman. There was very good reason for this, for it was evident on arrival and later that evening, that I was somewhat an object of curiosity. It seems that several bachelors of the town had concluded in the spring that it was not good for man to live alone, and so had started for the 'states' in search of a better half."

"As this was a long and very expensive journey, the ones who had remained

behind were more than anxious to see how the investment would 'pan out'. As Mr. Tracy was the first to arrive with his bride, a great deal of interest was displayed when, with quite a flourish, he drove up in front of the Guy House on that afternoon of June 5, 1869. A number of men gathered around, and Mr. Guy himself came out to greet us and escort us into the hotel."

"When supper was served a little later, Mrs. Guy insisted that I take a seat by her at the table. Every stool around the two long tables was occupied--Mrs. Guy, Mrs. Story and I being the only ladies. It did look somewhat like curiosity, and Mr. Guy told me later he had seventy-five extras for supper. I wonder if they thought Mr. Tracy's investment was a good one--I was then just a young girl of seventeen."



Many a gay blade will remember the good old horse and buggy days when he went to the livery stable to pick a prancing horse and one of those stylish rigs . . . those outfits really had the "pick-up".

Clifton News

Saturday, June 5. A warm and beautiful morning, and glad we are that we are not obliged to travel today.

We find ourselves in Bozeman. I have become some acquainted with Mrs. Guy and Mrs. Story. Very fine women they seem. There are a great number of Indians here now - camped just back of the house. I wrote to Mother and to Verona.

(Mrs. Nelson Story. The Story house was on the southeast corner of Main and Tracy, with a barn and corral on the lot which extended through the block to Babcock. The Story and Tracy homes were only a few steps from each other. The Storys were also staying at the Guy House until their home was completed.)

Sunday, June 6. It is some rainy here today. We did not attend church. I have written three letters today. Will and I have written twentyseven letters since we left home.

We went to church this evening and heard a very good sermon.

(The Methodist Church, a small frame building, had been built on the southwest corner of Main and Tracy, with services beginning July 28, 1867. The Tracys, particularly Mrs. Tracy, was a loyal member for a lifetime.)

Monday, June 7. It is quite a cold and unpleasant day. I wrote to Charley,



location for many years of the Rea, then the Modern Grocery.)

Thursday, June 17. It has been raining nearly all day, and is very dark and gloomy.

There are quite a number of Indians coming into town today. A very rough looking set. I received a letter from Verona tonight.

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"When I first came to Bozeman, the whole prairie south of town (in the vicinity of the present Methodist Church), seemed covered with Indian teepees. Indian ponies, squaws, papooses and dogs were everywhere. I was dreadfully afraid of them. They would peer in the windows if the doors were locked, or come flocking around the door begging for biscuits, soap, clothes, everything. One day a big Indian espied a large rain umbrella that I had brought with me from 'the States', and at once pestered me to trade it for a buffalo robe. He was so persistent that I at last, to get rid of him, made the trade. All day long he paraded up and down the street with the umbrella raised above his head. The next day his squaw had it, but she, becoming tired of it, brought it to the door and flung it on the floor shouting "heap of dirt, heap of dirt" in great disgust. She wanted me to trade back, but as I would not, she finally snatched the umbrella and stalked off with it."

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Friday, June 18. It has been raining all day and the street is getting real muddy. The town seems nearly full of Indians. About two miles from here there are eighteen lodges of Crows.

General Hancock (General W. S. Hancock, probably making his first trip to Montana after a reorganization of the western army command) arrived here today on his way to Fort Ellis. He was accompanied by his body guard - quite a large number of men.

Cullen, the Indian agent, has been staying here for a few days.

Saturday, June 19. It cleared off very pleasant this morning, but left the street very muddy.

Will got home about noon and brought some things for our house - a set of chairs, a feather bed, stove, curtains & groceries.

It is very cold this evening, and Will went to lodge.

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"Our little two-room house located where the Modern Grocery now stands was nearing completion. We acquired some furniture from Mr. Beall - a glass front sideboard \$30, a drop leaf table \$30, a sink \$25, and a bedstead \$20. Mr. Tracy made a trip to Helena, the trip took over a week. He returned with a carpet, the second one in town, a thin ingrain that cost \$1.50 a yard, a stove that cost \$110, six black walnut chairs at \$6.50 each, trimmed in

gold, that were so frail that when a gentleman caller leaned back on one it broke all to pieces, a feather bed and pillows cost \$50.00. When all of these were placed in two small rooms, we thought we had a very cozy home indeed, and good enough for anyone."

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Sunday, June 20. A very pleasant morning. Mrs. Guy and Sophia, Mrs. Babcock, Will and I went to take a ride down to Mrs. Lyman's. (The Lorenzo B. Lyman's claim was near the mouth of Bridger Creek, hence the present Lyman Creek and Reservoir.) We had a very pleasant time. I wrote to Verona today.

Monday, June 21. It is a very warm and pleasant day. I busied myself doing nothing most of the day. Sewed some, read some, went to see the house, and our furniture.

Tuesday, June 22. Will and I have out a big washing today. Will scrubbed the two floors. We worked very hard and are both tired tonight.

Wednesday, June 23. We brought all our furniture up today. Brought our dishes & I have been washing and cleaning most all day. We took our meals with Mrs. Guy today.

We stayed in our house tonight for the first time.

Thursday, June 24. I worked all the forenoon washing and scouring dishes. Cooked

some and did a little of everything.

Received two letters, and I wrote to Verona tonight.

We traded an umbrella with a squaw for a bed spread tonight.

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"The tribes west of us passed through Bozeman every year on their way over to the Yellowstone to hunt and fish. All day they would be passing along Main Street to their camp on the river just east of town. The squaws, most of them with papooses on their backs, rode the ponies that were dragging the teepee poles. Next day they were all around the town and visited us all before they left. On their return we had the same display, and they would remain several days to trade with the settlers. Somewhat later the Crows were put on a reservation about eight miles from where Livingston now stands, and after that we saw the Indians only occasionally. (Actually the agency, often called Fort Parker, was being built in 1869, as Mrs. Tracy was writing. Because the white man moved rapidly into the upper Yellowstone, the Indians were moved to the present Columbus area in 1874.) Major Pease was the first agent at the reservation. All kinds of supplies were issued to the Indians, at first from a warehouse in Bozeman, but later at the agency. I remember Major Scully coming here one time when supplies were being issued. He gave several of the chiefs large white felt hats like he

himself wore. They seemed immensely pleased, but at once cut out the tops before they wore them."

Friday, June 25. I ironed all the forenoon. Got dinner, fixed up and went down to Mrs. Guy's. We both went to the store and got some nice maple sugar given to us.

Will, Mrs. Guy and Sophia and myself went and took a ride over to Mrs. J. L. Noble's. We passed the Indian camp. There are twenty-two lodges camped two miles from here.

We made quite a little call, and when we came back Mrs. Segman was at Guy's and I had a nice visit with her.

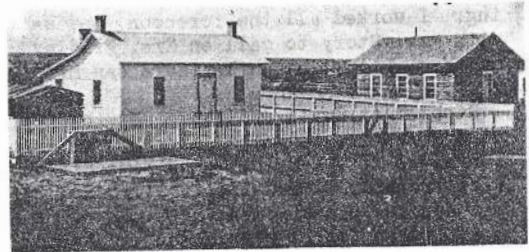
Saturday, June 26. I cleaned the windows and all the woodwork in the front room today. We took a short ride in the afternoon.

Sunday, June 27. We went with Mrs. Story down to their ranch where Mr. Bird lives. Stayed only a short time.

We had green peas for dinner, the first of the season. It is very warm today.

(The Story ranch was located in the area of North Seventh Avenue and the railroad right-of-way. This was unusually early for peas. Mrs. Tracy at age 17 adjusted rapidly. She admitted to problems with cooking, but must have learned rapidly, since she soon had numerous dinner guests.)

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"As I had never been trained in the culinary art, many unpredicted mistakes occurred, but with the help of kind Mrs. Story, now living in her own home near us, I soon learned to keep our table quite well supplied. The first thing Mrs. Story taught me was to roast coffee in the oven. The only coffee we could buy then was the green coffee beans. Other groceries we had were dried apples at 75¢ a pound, flour \$1 a pound, bacon 50¢ a pound. Mr. John Mendenhall had the store."  
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The Nelson Story home, built in 1869 on the S.W. corner of Main and Tracy (then called Templar Street) was near the Tracy home.

Monday, June 28. Will helped me wash today, since we had a very large one. The wind blows so I cannot put them out.

Court convenes today and great numbers of people are coming into town.

Josephine and Arvilla called today, and Mr. Babcock this evening. The Indians all left today.

Tuesday, June 29. A very warm morning. I filled the pillows out of the feather bed, and went into the garden and got greens and lettuce for dinner.

I went and visited Mrs. Story a few minutes and got her irons and ironed some. Mrs. Ward called this afternoon and Mrs. & Mrs. Story this evening.

Wednesday, June 30. It was a nice morning. I worked all the forenoon, and went with Mrs. Story to call on Mrs. Fridley and Mrs. Rich, and while there saw Mrs. Willson.

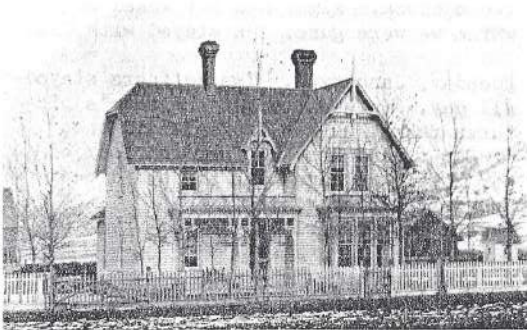
Stopped at Guy's and there met the two Miss Street's, and Miss Johnson, Mrs. Therman & Mrs. Warren. (The Miss Street's were probably from Gallatin City, and perhaps the other women.)

An Indian fought with a man and hurt him some while in the field at work. The man shot the Indian and hurt him some. The Indian was put in jail.

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Following Mrs. Tracy's account of her arrival in Bozeman on June 5, 1869, she continued: "In a few days General Willson arrived with his bride, and I was

included in the crowd of welcomers. As she went directly to her own home (at 224 Main Street - the long-time site of the Baltimore Hotel), Mrs. Willson missed the experience I had had of meeting the entire male population at once. They were still filled with curiosity, however, and the great and absorbing question among them was, "Have you seen the General Willson's wife?" She was such a charming and gifted lady that she won the hearts of the pioneers at once, and later when her piano arrived--the first in town--and they were privileged to hear her sing, they were indeed her captives. Many times, unknown to her, a crowd of rough and grizzled men gathered outside to listen while she practiced."  
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The newspaper account then continued to tell of the arrival of Mrs. Walter Cooper: "Mr. Cooper's bride was the next in the series of arrivals that spring. From the time he started off with his pony team to bring her here, all were talking of the prospective bride. His was not a four thousand mile trip, however, for Mrs. Cooper was already in the territory, so it was not long until they arrived back at the Guy House where we were all on hand to greet them. Such a charming young lady was she that all marveled she had been living so near in Jefferson County."  
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An early day landmark old timers will remember. The Walter Cooper home on the site of the present Baxter Hotel.

Thursday, July 1. The cavalry came in today. There were only 280 soldiers.

Mrs. Noble and her little girl came visiting, and stayed nearly all day, and Mr. Noble came for dinner.

Mrs. Story moved today and Will bought a cow from Mr. Ruffner for \$50.

The Indian escaped today. The men tried to get him, but failed in the attempt.

(The arrival of four companies of the 2nd Cavalry--although at low strength--under Lt. Colonel A. G. Brackett, was an historic day for Montana. This was the only cavalry unit in the Territory, and remained stationed at Fort Ellis until it was closed.)

Friday, July 2. I scrubbed the floor and worked all the forenoon. Will went to the fort, and in the afternoon to a horse race. I went to Mrs. Guy's and met Mrs. Penwell. (The several Penwell brothers had settled some eight miles northwest of Bozeman in 1864.)

Saturday, July 3. Mr. and Mrs. Guy, Sophia, Will and I went down on the West Gallatin to a 4th of July dance, but did not enjoy ourselves much. There was a large crowd and we had a good dinner. We got some wet coming home and arrived about seven o'clock.

Sunday, July 4. Will sent to the fort, and I went to Sunday School with Sophia. It rained some today, and I wrote letters home.

Monday, July 5. Will went to the Post, and Mr. Chappel was here all day painting and varnishing. We have to sleep on the floor tonight for he has varnished the bedstead.

Tuesday, July 6. Mr. Chappel was here all day. Finished graining the cupboard and sink and finished the table.

Wednesday, July 7. Our furniture is now finished. Will went to the Post today. He bought a pig for \$60. I received letters from Mother and Verona today, and answered them both.

Thursday, July 8. I have done a very large washing today. Will was busy



until afternoon and could not help me. He helped scrub the floor. I never was so tired as I am tonight.

Friday, July 9. It has rained some today and I have finished my ironing.

Mrs. Tracy's diary closed here. In its few month's span her increasing involvement with new friends, home and community activities is evident. During her first weeks she was much occupied with receiving and writing letters. By June she seldom mentioned these.

The closing of the diary may have been hastened by another event which occurred in the tenth month of her marriage, and which she recorded on a separate page in the diary:

"Elmer Henry Tracy. Born February 12, 1870, at Bozeman City, Montana Territory."

Mrs. Tracy made a New Year's Resolution, and picked up the little record book again for a four day notation:

Monday, January 1, 1872. New Year's Day and a Happy New Year to all.

We went up to Ruffner's (The Samuel Ruffners had been married in 1868, lived near the edge of town and engaged in farming and milling. They are frequently mentioned in the Alderson Diary.) and they stayed all night.

We had a nice party, a poor supper and a large crowd, and came home about two o'clock. Elmer had not waked up while we were gone. He stayed with Ola.

Tuesday, January 2. The Ruffners stayed all day. We went to get the baby's pictures taken. I got two splendid ones of Elmer, and Mrs. Ruffner got four of her baby. We came home and had dinner and went sleigh riding.

Went to bed early as we were pretty sleepy.

Wednesday, January 3. Today I washed and cleaned up the kitchen. Cleaned the cupboard and scrubbed the floor, and had shelves put up in the kitchen.

Mrs. Story came over a little while, the first time since her baby was born. It has been a fine day, but looks like a storm tonight.

Thursday, January 4. I had company today. Mrs. Bailey, Mrs. Wood and Mrs. Castner came and spent the day, and with their husbands took dinner.

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The diary closes again. In Mrs. Tracy's addresses given early in the 20th Century, and summarized in the 1954 newspaper article she made additional comments.

"In all there were just fourteen women in the town in 1869, but they all vied with each other to help us and to make us welcome."

Mrs. Tracy was apparently counting only the women who lived close in, or who were active in town affairs. She mentions more than fourteen, some of whom are not yet identifiable. Others known to be living in the town she does not mention. Those readily identifiable include:

Mrs. Wm. W. Alderson  
Mrs. Wm. J. Beall (always pronounced "Bell")  
Mrs. Matthew Bird  
Mrs. Arvilla Davis & Josephine  
Mrs. F. F. Fridley  
Mrs. John C. Guy & Sophia  
Mrs. Lorenzo B. Lyman  
Mrs. J. L. Noble  
Mrs. Charles Rich  
Mrs. Samuel Ruffner  
Mrs. Nelson Story  
Mrs. William Tracy  
Mrs. Lester S. Willson

Apparently the Guy House was the center where women stopped most often to meet other women. Mrs. Tracy recalled some of its characteristics:

"The hotel where we resided for three weeks until our home was completed was a log structure boarded up on the outside and having a large front porch. For chairs they used three legged stools. Most of the furniture was homemade except in the parlor which had horsehair furniture. Very few conveniences were to be found, the one carpet being in Mrs. Guy's room. The rates were \$17.00 per week for room and board."

On one occasion Mrs. Tracy summarized her years in Bozeman:

"It has been interesting to watch the growth of our town from the small group of buildings that was Bozeman in 1869 to the prosperous and beautiful Bozeman of today. In 1882 our family had grown, and we decided we must move 'farther out' so we built a larger home at the corner of Tracy and Mendenhall streets. There we are raising our children, and enjoying a life of far less hardship than in earlier days. My love of our town has grown with the years, and I think of it always by the name Davis Willson used to call it:

"Bozeman the Beautiful."