

**Laramie City**—the enterprising county seat of Laramie county, has wonderfully improved within the last few years. It has a population of 4,000, and is regularly laid out, at right angles with the road. A stream of clear, cold water, which rises in a spring a few miles to the eastward, runs through the principal streets; the buildings are small and mostly of wood with a few substantial structures of stone. The spirit of improvement is manifested, on every hand, which has recently completed numerous stores, hotels, banks, churches, schools, dwellings, and other buildings, including a court-house and jail. Trees line many of the streets, and present a cheerful and home-like appearance; in fact, most of the Laramie residents are here to stay, and are determined to make it the "Boss" city of the Plains.

Laramie was many years after the completion of the road, a regular eating station for passenger trains from the East and West. The meals were served in the company's large and commodious hotel—in front of which the cars stop—but circumstances made it necessary to establish the eating house farther to the northward, and it is now at Rock Creek, 51 miles distant. The *Sentinel*, a daily and weekly paper, is published here.

**ROLLING MILL**—During the year of 1874, the Railroad Company erected a rolling mill at this place, at a cost of \$127,500. It is situated to the right of the road a short distance north of the station. The mill is in operation night and day, re-rolling old rails and other heavy work.

The company's division shops are also located here. They are of stone obtained from Rock Creek, 50 miles distant to the northward. The round-house contains 20 stalls. The machine shop is used for general repairing, and contains all the necessary machinery of a first-class shop.

The railroad was completed to this point June 18th, 1868, and for some months Laramie was known as the "end of the track," which at that time meant that it was not only the place from which all freight and supplies for the West were hauled on wagons—but it was the center for all the gamblers, roughs and abominations which followed the building of the road.

Directly to the east of this place can be seen the Cheyenne Pass wagon road—the old emigrant route—which crosses the

plain and river half a mile below the city, running northwest to the base of the mountains, parallel with the railroad.

**WOMAN JURY**—Laramie was the first place in America—or in the world even—where a female jury was empaneled. Their first case was that of a Western desperado, and there was no flinching from duty on the part of the "weaker sex." Before bringing in their verdict, they invoked the divine guidance—while their nurses calmed the rising generation by singing,

"Nice little baby, don't get in a fury,  
'Cause mamma's gone to sit on the jury."

**"TRICKS THAT ARE VAIN"**—Curious passengers will note from this city west the railroad laborers—section hands—are all CHINAMEN; they are said to be very reliable; and, as they don't drink whisky, the saloons along the line are getting almost as scarce as the grasshoppers and mice. The saloon-men are all "anti-Chinese."

**LARAMIE PLAINS**—comprise a belt of fine grazing lands about 25 miles wide by 60 long, and is considered one of the best locations for stock-raising in this section of the country.

The remarks made about the grazing lands elsewhere will well apply to this section. Beef can be raised and fattened on these plains at an expense not exceeding the cost of such cattle in Texas, where, as every one knows, they raise themselves and form the larger half of the population. The peculiar feature of these grasses are similar to those already described. The plains are higher, and frost makes its appearance earlier in the fall, but the grass is cured by the summer sun before its arrival, so that the cold weather does not injure it. We need only to mention the well-known fact that thousands of buffalo roamed over these plains, furnishing the Indians with unlimited quantities of beef, before the white man drove them away, to convince any one that the laudations of this, as a grazing country, are not exaggerated or wild ideas of enthusiasts, but simple facts, substantiated by past and present experience.

Stock-raising is now almost the only industry noticeable, and a great many thousand head of cattle, sheep and horses can be seen in almost any direction. It is computed that there are at this time over 90,000 head of cattle, 85,000 head of sheep, and 3,000 horses and mules