

Church Buttes station derives its name from the peculiar formation of the sand-stone bluffs, which extend for many miles on the left-hand side of the road; they are about ten miles distant. At the Old Church Buttes station, on the old overland stage road,"—about nine miles to the south they rise in lofty domes and pinnacles, which, at a distance, resemble the fluted columns of some cathedral of the olden time, standing in the midst of desolation; its lofty turreted roof and towering spires rising far above the surrounding country; but on nearer approach the scene changes, and we find a huge mass of sandstone, worn and washed by the elements until it has assumed the outline of a church of the grandest dimensions, it being visible for a great distance. Again we go westward 9.4 miles to

Hampton—a side track, with cattle pens and shute for loading them—large herds of which range in this section, on the hills and in the adjacent valleys.

To the left, after leaving the station, we see high buttes of all fantastic shapes, showing water lines, which indicate that there has been "high water" here some time in the past.

Carter—is 7.5 miles from the last station. About seven miles north, a large sulphur spring, and near it a calybeta spring has been discovered, and about fourteen miles further a mountain of coal; the total thickness of the veins is 87 feet, traceable for twelve miles. A branch railroad is contemplated to the coal bank, via the springs.

This station is named for Judge Carter, of Bridger. This gentleman has a large warehouse at this point, where freight is received from Virginia City, Helena, and Bannock City, Montana Territory. This route is said to be 80 miles shorter than any other road leading from the Union Pacific railroad to these cities.



JAMES BRIDGER—See following page.

The series of buttes that has been observed on our left below, continues, but are more of a uniform height—table-topped, with scrub cedars in the gulches and ravines. Some of these buttes look like immense railroad dumps, as they jet out into the valley, round and steep.

On the right, the soil is red-clay, with some rocks of the same color.

FORT BRIDGER—is ten miles east from this station, over the bluffs, out of sight, having been established in 1858, by General A. S. Johnson, latitude 41 deg. 18 min. and 12 sec.; longitude 110 deg. 32 min. and 38 sec.

Black's Fork, which runs through the center of the parade ground, affords excellent water, and with Smith's Fork, a stream five miles southeast, affords as fine trout as there is in the country.

The chief of the Shoshones, Wash-a-kie, whose picture will be found on page 61, is almost always at this post. He is a very kind, honorable Indian, and has been the steadfast friend of the whites for many years.