

more than 1,000 miles, to the famous Yellowstone Park. The line of railway leads along the valley of the Columbia River, crosses the Cascade Mountains, at one time penetrating a tunnel 9,850 feet in length. Enter Idaho, east of Spokane Falls, and pass in view of Pend d'Oreille Lake, along Clark's Fork, and reach the new State of Montana, more than three times the size of Pennsylvania. Passing through Helena and Bozeman, we leave the main line of railway at Livingston and turn south over a branch line some fifty miles to Cinnabar] on the borders of the Yellowstone Park. From here to the hotel at Mammoth Hot Springs, the party will transfer by carriage, and the next week will be spent among one of the grandest and most wonderful regions of the continent.

Yellowstone Park.—The reservation known as the Yellowstone National Park, set apart for public uses by an act of Congress passed in 1872, covers a tract of about sixty-five miles in length, from north to south, and about fifty-five miles in width, from east to west, lying chiefly in Northwestern Wyoming, and overlapping, to a small extent, the State boundary of Montana, on the north, and of Idaho on the west. This gives an area of 3,312 square miles, a tract that is nearly as large as the States of Rhode Island and Delaware combined, and nearly half as large as the State of Massachusetts.

The first visit will be made to **Mammoth Hot Springs.**—The Springs have built up a series of remarkable terraces on the west side of a little plateau, or basin, 1,000 feet above the Gardiner River, into which their waters flow. On the opposite side of the river rises the long, rugged mass of Mount Evarts, which has an elevation of 7,600 feet, 1,213 feet higher than the hotel. The whole plateau and the steep slopes extending down to the river are mainly composed of calcareous deposits, resulting from springs and geysers now extinct.

The excursion through the park by stage includes the Norris Geyser Basin, containing a few unimportant geysers and a number of springs of various colors. The night will be spent at Lower Geyser Basin.

Leaving the hotel in the Lower Geyser Basin Saturday morning, the party will proceed to the Upper Geyser Basin, visiting the "Paint Pots" and the "Fountain" Geyser on the way. A halt will also be made in the Midway Geyser Basin for the purpose of inspecting the great "Excelsior" Geyser, "Turquoise" Spring, and "Prismatic" Lake, all of which lie on the west bank of the river. The "Excelsior," the largest geyser known in the world, was in a state of great activity during the year 1888, after a period of inaction lasting about six years. The eruptions occurred at intervals of about an hour, and were very powerful. A great dome of water, often accompanied by lavatic stones, was thrown into the air to the height of between 200 and 300 feet, while the accompanying column of steam 1,000 feet or more. Early in 1889 the geyser again ceased action. "Hell's Half Acre" is another expressive name given to this terrible pit.