

## **Return to Bozeman**

In 1878, a merchant in Bozeman, Mont., extended to Andrew Garcia what was called "jawbone credit." Without putting anything in writing, he gave Garcia \$300 worth of supplies for a hunting and trapping expedition. The trapper promised to return and pay his debt with hides and pelts from his expedition.

While Garcia was away, hostile Indians moved into the area around Bozeman. Weather conditions got bad. Fellow trappers told him to forget about returning to Bozeman, but Garcia wouldn't hear of it. After a series of harrowing experiences, he returned to the merchant with hides and pelts to pay his debt. He kept his word.

Character defined by integrity is much admired by the world. It commands respect that money cannot buy.

God, too, makes vows, and He always keeps His word. If He did not, then we would have no basis for hope.

Let us thank our Father for being a God of integrity and resolve that we will be people whose word can be trusted.

--Beecher Hunter