THE MONTANA POST.

D. W. TILTON, & CO., Editors & Proprietors.

"My Country, May she Always be right, But My Country, Right or Wrong."

TERMS:--$7,50 Per Year in Advance

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The Montana Post

D. W. Tilton, & Co.,

D. W. Tilton. Ben. R. Dittes.
PUBLISHERS AND PROPRIETORS.

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OFFICE IN POST OFFICE BUILDING. Patients visited at their residence when desired.
tf—3

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HOLLADAY & HALSEY,
BANKERS,
At the office of the Overland Stage Line, Virginia City, Montana Territory, will pay the highest rates for
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Dust Bought for Coin or Currency.
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Drafts Payable in Coin or Currency sold on New York,
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Postage Currency and Revenue Stamps for sale. 1–1y

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AMERICAN WATCHES JUST RECEIVED DIrect from the manufactories.
Every description of Jewelry manufactured from the Native Gold. Call, Examine Specimens, and then judge.
Sign of the **MAMMOTH WATCH.**
NEVADA CITY, Montana Territory.
Virginia City, Sept. 10, 1864.
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CONFECTIONERY and BAKERY.
A Large and Fresh Stock of
CANDIES,
CANNED FRUITS, and
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of all KINDS.
FINE CIGARS, WINES, and LIQUORS,
kept constantly on hand.
BALL SUPPERS and WEDDING CAKES,
Gotten up on Short Notice.
Wallace St, one door above the Gem.
Virginia City, M. T., Sept. 10, 1864.
3—6m

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(Sussessor to)
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Corner of Idaho & VanBuren Sts.
ALL KINDS OF SLUICE OR BUILDING LUMber. Lumber bills filled on short notice.
3—3m

From Bivins' Gulch.

September 5th, 1864.

Editor Post:—In looking over the first number of your paper, I was somewhat surprised as well as amused at the account of an Indian fight on Powder river, on the Bozeman cut-off. I observe the name of Dr. Crepin somewhat conspicuous, and I believe his is the only name mentioned in the whole affair. Now, I being one of the individual members of the train alluded to in the above mentioned fight, (said train consisting of three hundred and sixty-nine men, thirty-six women, and fifty-six children, and known as Capt. Townsend's train,) I consider it my duty to correct some of the many errors made by your cosrespondent "E. W.," who, I conclude, must have taken the story from some person who knows but little of the matter, or else he must have little regard for the truth.

On the morning of the 7th of July last, just as our train was beginning to roll out, a party of Indians were discovered a short distance from our camp. Upon learning this fact, Capt. Townsend called out the men, who, with four exceptions, responded nobly to the call. He then ordered the wagon-master, Mr. Berryhill, to corral the train, but for some reason best known to himself, the wagon-master refused to obey the order, when the captain very promptly commenced corralling the train himself. Of course there was much noise and confusion in camp, and very little order, but while the train was corraling, our old guide, Bayer, went out to meet the Indians, and, if possible, to ascertain what they wanted. He soon returned, saying they only wanted food, and did not wish to fight, as they were on their way to the Snake country in pursuit of horses stolen from them by the Snakes. Very few of us, however, believed this story, and when our captain and others came around soliciting food for them, many refused to give them anything but powder and lead, as most of us were convinced that they were bent on mischeif. Our guide said they were a band of Cheyennes, led on by a chief called "Spotted Cow," and well known for his hostility to whites, he being the same one who drove back a train of eighty wagons last season, that attempted to go through on that road.

While our men were yet in the act of carrying them provisions, such as bread, sugar, coffee, &c., a party of our men went out to search for a man that was back looking for his cow, and they were no sooner out of sight of our camp, than the Indians surrounded them and commenned firing on them, and tried to cut them off, but our men fought their way through without a scratch, exctpting one man, (Mr. Archer,) who was hit in the back with an arrow. He was a brave fellow and acted nobly, and came into camp with the arrow sticking in his back. Dr. Crepin not being able to extract the arrow, another Dr., an Englishman whose name I did not learn was called in and finally succeeded in getting it out.

When we heard the firing and learned the cause of it, there was a number of men started to the rescue—myself among the rest, and I, being well mounted, got in advance of the rest, most of whom were on foot. When I got nearly to where the men were that were fighting, I met Dr. Crepin coming back, urging his horse to his utmost speed, and shouting with all his might to us to go back—that the men were all cut to pieces, and that the Indians were flanking us, and would soon be in the rear of the corral. On hearing this, we all went back to camp, but soon found out that there was no truth whatever in any part of the above statement. And, as to the doctor's pulling an Indian by the hair, that is all "shenanigan." An Indian would have had to have been mounted on a fleet horse indeed, to have got that close to Dr. Crepin on that day. The Dr. said, on coming into camp, that he had killed two Indiant, but I could never find any other person that ever saw him shoot at one, even at long range.

The Indians showed more than their usual bravery on that day, as might have been expected, after our feeding them, and showing them that we were afraid of them. We lost four men killed, as stated by your correspondent, but instead of our killing thirty Indians, we probably killed about seven, as the Indians acknowledged a loss of that many, we were told afterwards by friendly Indians. That is more than we supposed we had killed, as they managed to get all the dead off the field.

Now, Messrs. Editors, I hope you will give this letter a place in your paper, in justice to the few brave meu who took part in this affair. I, for one, feel like claiming very little glory in the whole matter. I think the whole fight showed a good deal of cowardice on our part, and we let the Indians go without punishing them as they ought to have been, and might have been. As there was over four hundred persons witnessed the whole afiair, if I have not given a correct statement let some one correct me. Zerah French.

Murder at Kootenai.—The Dalles *Mountaineer* of Thursday, August 18th, says that Theodore Burmester, formally of the Dalles, shot and killed a man in the mines; the miners were about opening a Court to try and would probably hang him. He is thought to have a family living in Grand Ronde valley. The same paper says:

The Overland mail arrived at Walla Walla at two o'clock on the morning of the 16th instant. The trip was made through from Salt Lake inside of eight days. The Overland mail via the Dalles and Walla Walla, is now a fixed fact. Under the present arrangement, Thomas & Co.'s stages carry the mail from Walla Walla to Boise City in two and a half days; thence Ben Holladay takes the mail by way of Fort Hall and Salt Lake to Atchison, on the Missouri river, making the whole distance in eighteen days.

☞ There are said to be 20,000 Southern women in the boarding houses in New York City.

Gallatin Valley Corrsrpondence.

Editor Post:—Being something of a pioneer and explorer, I gladly avail myself of your columns for the purpose of directing the attention of some among the many enterprising men of this newly developed country into an excellent channel for its remunerative exercise, some facts that have fallen under the writer's observation, which will, I trust, be of service to enquirers.

The gold mania has induced the great throng of emigrants to sacrifice their homes, happiness, fortunes and families; to endanger their own comfort, health, and even to risk their lives, to get to the land of Ophir. Some set out for the purpose of mining, some for trade, and others, less honest, with the design of gambling and swindling. But few, however, have turned their attention to agriculture, many probably from ignorance of a desirable locality, but such men will find it to their advantage to settle in the great Gallatin valley. This is the only valley of any great extent that possesses all the qualities and facilities for agricultural operations, within the entire range of the Rocky Mountains. Its length is from forty to forty-five miles and its average width from fifteen to thirty. The Gallatin river runs through the centrs, the Madison is on the western side, and the Little, or East Gallatin on the eastern, Middle, or Six Mile creek, and other streams intervening, with springs and spring brooks, cold and pure, flowing from the surrounding monntains, affording water for stock, domestic use and irrigation. These creeks are to be found, generally speaking, placed at intervals of about half a mile. The grass is luxuriant; the soil rich and productive, and the climate salulubrious. No stagnant water is to be found, and the health of the settler is insured. The farmers who have resided in Gallatin valley for one or two years, say the winters are as mild as those of the Middle States—that the land is more productive for all small grains, yielding sixty bushels of wheat to the acre, and the growing season is sufficienily long to mature the earlier kinds of corn. Vegetablus, such as potatoes, turnips, pumpkins, squashes, melons, onions, beans, pea- and other garden produce, are equal to those grown in the States.

The valley is being fast settled up by farmers, many of whom came to the mountains as the better class of miners, and after a while, quitting their original pursuits select their hundred and sixty acres of land, on which they stick a stake, giving the date, the name and the claim. They then build their cabin and go to work in true farmer fashion, convinced that the best deposites of gold are in the soil of the valley, but that it must be excavated with the plough and cultivator; sluiced in the threshing mill and separator; crushed in the flouring mill, and panned in the baking-dish.

The village of Montana is newly laid off and located on a handsome and level piece of land, in what is called the upper valley, where the Bozeman cut-off or route to the Eastern States crosses the little Gallatin.

The proprietors offer liberal donations in town lots to builders in the village, and there are several new structures now going up. One of these is for a store-house, and is owned by a gentleman from Chicago. A saw mill and grist mill are to be built next summer, within a mile of the village, and, as demand may require, other mills and machinery will be erected, the valley abounding in water-falls suitable for the supply of motive power.

In point of fact, Gallatin valley is the oasis of the mountains. The scenery cannot be excellad, the surrounding peaks are separated only by their intervening gulches or canons traversed by beautiful rivulets, crowned with the ever green foliage of the lofty pice. To the close examiner the "color" is to be found all along the base of the mountains. Wild fruits of all kinds are in abundance. Game is plentiful, such as buffalo, elk, bear, deer, antelope and mountain sheep, while the streams abound with beaver, otter, mink, geese, ducks and fish.

Hoping that these remarks may be of service, I remain, dear sir, yours respectfully,

I. M. Bozeman.

September 10th, 1864.

From the Gallatin.

Jones' Ranch, September 9, 1864.

Editor Post:—You have no doubt heard many alarming reports of Indian troubles in our valley. Many of these were unfounded. A great prejudice existed here for a few days against some men from Virginia city. The Indians have all gone off to the Yellowstone. They had no bad feelings against the settlers, but were angry with men who shot their warriors and took their ponies. None of the inhabitants have either fortified or left their ranches. Everything is quiet and the Indians say they never stole any horses from the Stinkingwater or the Jefferson, but about seventy head followed them, and that some men came after them, and the Chief told them that if they were with the band he would have them sent back; which he did. The horses were not with them at the time his warriors were shot. Mr. Lockhart shot one and took his ponies—selling them at Virginia City. Two other young men killed another warrior and sold his pony for $20 in gold. If we justify the whites it should be for finding their horses with the Indians and then shooting those who committed the theft, and not otherwise.

I find there are various rumors afloat, magnified, no doubt, but this is the simple true statement.

The Indians are all gone, and everything is quiet.

No settlers are murdered and no stock stolen.

No fortifications erected, but many cabins being built and haystacks made.

All the inhabitants are following their usual employments. Yours, respectfully,

Old Ranger Jones.

The Position of the War.—A correspondent of the Boston *Journal* presents the following view of our military situation:

The census of 1850, with emigration and the annual increase of births, gives us a population of 37,000,000 in the Summer of 1864.

Of this population 4,000,000 of whites and 3,000,000 of slaves exist in the rebel districts, and 30,000,000 of free men are to be found in the loyal districts. The contest is now between forces standing in the ratio of 4 to 30, with three ready to aid the successful party.

In comparing more closely the relative strength of the two districts, we find that one half the whites are males, one half of the males are under 16, and one half of the residue, from old age, youth, physical infirmity or sickness, unfit for service in the field. In this State we have never been able to bring more than 10 per cent. for the capacity of the rebel districts, it is a liberal allowance. In the Southern districts which are said to be loyal or have been subdued, such as Missouri, Kentucky, Tennessee, Maryland and a portion of other States, there is a white population of 4,000,000, and it is a fair presumption that four per cent, of the population, or one-third of the fighting men of these regions, have joined the rebel armies. We cannot allow more, as the rebel conscription has opperated but a little if any on those districts.

The war has been in progress for three years, and an allowance of 30,000 a year for the excess of young men growing up over men becoming superanuated or dying by ordinary disease, is a very liberal allowance. Further, by the best information in our possession, the rebels have lost in the last three years, down to the 6th of May last, by deaths in the field, camps and hospitals, by wounds and captnres—and most of this is conceded—120,000 a year, or 360,000 men.

During the present campaign, since May 1st, Lee it is understood to have lost 70,000 men; and Johnson, Magruder, Forrest and others, at least 30,000 more. The following gives the result: Rebel force at the outset, twelve per cent. of 4,000,000 whites, 480,000; four per cent. of 4,000,000 whites in the Southern districts loyal, 160,000; young men growing up in three years in excess of deaths, 90,000. Whole number of men able to fight from the start, 730,000. Rebel losses in three years to May 1st, loss in the field and by sickness, at 120,000 a year, or 360,000; rebel losses, East and West, in the present campaign, 100,000; owners of plantations, artificers, drivers, refugees and men who will not or cannot fight, at least, 75,000; balance in the field or hospital, 195,000. Total, 730,000. We thus have remaining as the whole rebel force, either in the field or fit for service, and to be relied upon, 195,000; from these we may deduct at least five per cent. or 10,000 for the sick in hospital. And we have fighting men 185,000. Of these there are west of the Mississippi, at least 25,000; with Johnson, 45,000; with Forrest and others, 10,000; at Mobile and in the Carolinas, 20,000; with Lee and on raids into Maryland, 85,000.

To crush these we have at least 500,000 men, and if we deduct for furloughs and hospitals ten per cent., we have 450,000 men in the field, and of these we have in front of both Lee and Johnson at least twice the forces opposed to them, at laast 300,000, the residue holding the Mississippi, the coast of Carolina, and the communications and depots in the rear of our main armies.

If our Government will but keep these armies up to their present strength, and keep down, as they can (below 200), the price of gold, the result is certain. For the last two months we have disposed of our foes at the rate of nearly 50,000 per month. Should we continue to move with the same degree of dispatch, the present campaign of 1864, at its close, would leave few foes in arms or able to renew the contest.

Professor Silliman.—We observe that this gentleman has reached Los Angeles, on his return from the Arizona mines. He left this city in June, for a tour of observation in the Southern counties of California, extending his journey to a point about one hundred miles east of Fort Mohave, on the Colorado. During his absence he has visited the quicksilver region near Santa Barbara (having previously visited the New Almaden region) and the petroleum springs of San Buenaventura and Los Angeles; has made an examination and geological map of Catalina Island; has visited the tin district of Temescal, and the coal of S anta Ana, in Los Angeles and San Bernardino besides the Arizona region, already named. Before returning it is understood he will also visit the copper district at Solidad. Professor Silliman was accompanied by his secretary and professional assistant—Semple—and during a part of the time by Clayton, of this city. We understand he will return to his old home, at the Occidental Hotel, about the last of this month or early in September, and that it is his intention to make his observations on this coast still more complete by a trip to Reese River and Humbolt. Having already devoted considerable time to the gold districts of the Sieras and the silver deposits of Nevada Territory—where his observations began in April last—he will, if the season is open, cross the continent by Salt Lake and the silver and gold region of Colorado Territory.—*S. F. Alta.*

The gentleman, to complete his tour of inspection and research should visit Montana. There is a wide field here for the Professor to look over, and one which, in its gold and silver leads will compare favorably with either Colarado, California or Nevada.

——Now, and for only a few days more is the time to roll that game of ten pins at the City Bowling Saloon for $25 in coin, offered as a prize by the gentlemanly proprietors. Go in, boys, and —— win.

Procrastination.

Procrastination has been appropriately named the "thief of time," and a bold thief it is, and what is worse, goes unwhipped of justice. It is often the parent of confusion—sometimes of poverty.—Some persons seem to have been born half an hour too late, and chase that half an hour through life, and are finally distanced in the race; for by procrastinating, they are always behindhand in everything, unless it shall be in the pursuit of vice, which is apt to produce a little too much punctuality. An old Saxon adage reads thus: "Never put off till to-morrow what may be done to-day." The Spaniards have one that reads as follows: "Never do to-day what can be put off till to-morrow."

The present condition of our nation is a striking commentary on the text; the natural result of each proverb. Another adage may be cited, worthy of note: "Punctuality is the life of business." Some mechanics, excellent workmen and kind hearted men, lose all their custom for want of punctuality. Some farmers make double work for themselves, and perhaps sustain essential damage, by not doing work in time. Some let their accounts run until they are drawn into the awful vortex of the law. Some lose debts by procrastinating them into the statue of limitations, which was made as a check on this wide-spread evil. Borrowers are great procrastinators.

Most men postpone making their will until on a sick bed, and often then, until too weak to make them clearly, and the lawyers take more of the estate than the heirs. Some persons from penuriousness, others from dread of medicine, postpone sending for a physician quite too long—others send on a trivial occasion. The latter practice is the most safe, although sometimes a theme of ridicule. Some delay vaccination; the small pox comes—it is then too late—the victim dies. Some ministers delay preparing their sermons until Saturday, others do not prepare them at all. Without unusually strong natural powers, a thorough knowledge of the Bible, and a most fervent zeal and piety, they are not prepared to feed their flock. Others are sadly prone to keep the congregation waiting, arriving half an hour too late. The impatience of the hearers has soured their minds, and they are measureably unprepared to receive the Word in the love of it. Punctuality in religion is of vast importance.

The most fatal procrastination is exhibited by those who delay a preparation for death. They know not how soon it may come, and if unprepared when it arrives, their dismal fate is irrevocably fixed.—Reader, lay this to heart—*prepare to meet thy God.*

State Sovereignty in Dixie.—The following, from the Richmond *Examiner*, is a pungent exhibition of the absurdity and futility of the dogma of State sovereignty:

If North Carolina cease to be a part of the Confederacy and become a part of the Federal Union, which is at war with us, she thereby declares war against the Confederacy. That a State did, in the middle of the war, abandon her allies, deny her act, eat her words and join her enemies against her friends, might be a brilliant historic record in the future, but it would not be peace; it would only be the beginning of war. It is not to be supposed that Virginia and South Carolina would submit to be cut asunder by the intervening country, if that ceuntry should declare itself an enemy instead of a friend. They, of cousre, would treat it as an enemy; would make it unceremonious use of its railroads and short work of its towns. We do not see that the Old North State would gain much by reconsiling herself to Rhode Island and Massachusetts, and declaring war against South Carolina and Virginia. It is useless, and is intended to decieve, when the "peace men" say vaguely, as we observe they do say and impudently repeat: "Better let each State set up temporarily for itself than continue the war." Certainly, North Carolina can and may seceed at any moment from the Confederacy; this is not a matter susceptable of argument; by constitutional right she may first secede, and then either join our enemies or "set up for herself," precisely as to her shall seem, good, if the deserting interest, the deserting principle and deserting vote be indeed so strong and prevailing; but at least let her understand the consequences. In the first place, if she set up for herself and pretended to "neutrality," and if the Federal Government admited that pretention, then she would be bound to all the duties of neutrals between the two belligerents; she would be bound to refuse passage to Federal troops through her territory and to require their evacuation of all the places which they hold within the State; because to permit the Federals to use North Carolina as a depot of troops or arms, or a base of operations, would be an act of war against us; and she would also be bound to refuse passage to Confederate troops and stores, because to grant it would be an act of war against Federals. But neither of the belligerents would submit to be thus ordered off; therefore, North Carolina would be obliged to go to war with them both to enforce their neutrality and independence. She would have gained by her secession the honor of being for a time the principle battle ground of the war. One is almost ashamed to argue so simple a matter. We only do so in order to show that this specious pretense of a Confederate State "setting up for itself," "negotiating for a seperate peace" and the like, simply means, peace with our enemies and war upon us.