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

VOL. 1. VIRGINIA CITY, MONTANA TERRITORY, SATURDAY, DECEMBER 24, 1864. NO. 18

The Montana Post

D. W. Tilton, & Co.,

D. W. Tilton. Ben. R. Ditters.

PUBLISHERS AND PROPRIETORS.

Office at the City Book Store, Corner of Wallace and Jackson Streets.

TERMS:

One copy, one year,	$7.50
One copy, six months,	4.00
One copy, three months,	2.50

Rates of Advertising.

Business cards, (five lines or less,) one year	$20 00
" " " " " " six months,	15 00
" " " " " " three months	10 00
One square one year, (ten lines or less)	40 00
One square six months " " " "	25 00
One square, three months " " "	15 00
Quarter column, one year,	60 00
" " six months	45 00
" " three "	30 00
Half column, one year,	90 00
" " six months,	60 00
" " three months	45 00
One column, one year,	150 00
" " six months'	100 00
" " three months,	75 00

Regular advertisers will be allowed to change quarterly without additional charge.

All business communications should be addressed to D. W. TILTON & Co., Virgtnia City, M. T.

Job Printing of every description executed in a superior manner and at reasonable rates.

OFFICIAL DIRECTORY.

Territorial Officers.

Governor, SIDNEY EDGERTON, Bannack City;
Secretary, H. P. FORSEY;
Chief Justice, H. L. HOSMER.
Associate Justice, AMMI GIDDINGS,
" " L. B. WILLISTON,
Atty. General, E. B. NEALY, Virginia City;
Marshal, C. J. BUCK,
Surveyor General, M. BOYD.
Auditor, JOHN S. LOTT.
Treasurer, JOHN J. HULL.
Notary Public, JOHN S. ATCHISON.
Assessor, T. C. EVERTS.

County Officers of Madison County.

County Commissioners, James Fergus,
" " Samuel W. Stanley,
" " Fred. K. Root.
Probate Judge, Thos. C. Jones.
Sheriff, Neil Howie.
Treasurer, Robert N. Hill.
Recorder, R. M. Hagaman.
Assistant Assessor 1st District, Jerry Cook.

Municipal Officers of Virginia City.

Police Judge and Ex-Officio Mayor, G. G. Bissell.
Members of Council, E. K. Woodbury,
" " Sam. Schwab,
" " James Gibson,
" " N. Ford.
Marshal, Jerry Nolan.

Masonic.

The regular communications of Virginia City Lodge, U. D., A. F. & A. M., are held on the 2d and 4th Saturdays in each month.

P. S. PFOUTS, W. M.

Alex. Davis, Sect'y.

Church.

Preaching every Sabbath by Rev. A. M. Torrey, at 11 A. M. at the Court House. Sabbath School at 2 P. M. All are invited to attend.

BUSINESS CARDS.

W. F. Sanders. Jerry Cook.

SANDERS & COOK.

ATTORNEYS at Law, Virginia City, Montana Territory. 3—1y

W. L. McMath.] [W. Y. Lovell.

McMATH & LOVELL,

Attorneys at Law, Virginia City, M. T., will promptly attend to all professional business entrusted to their care. 1-3m

W. J. McCormick. W. Y. Pemberton. H. Burns

McCormick, Pemberton & Burns.

Attorneys at Law, Virginia City, Montana Territory. Office in Content's Corner up-stairs. 1—6m

W. M. Stafford, Cal. R. B. Parrott, Iowa. L. W. Borton, Col.

STAFFORD, PARROTT & BORTON,

Attorneys at Law, Office on Idaho street, opposite the court house, Virginia City, Montana Territory. 2-3m

J. B. JUDGE,

Boot & Shoe maker, Virginia City, Montana Territory. The best of custom work always on hand. Give me a trial. 1-6m

JOSEPH CRUWIT,

French Baker, Nevada City, Montana Territory, would say to his numerous customers that he is always on hand to stuff the mouths of the hungry.—Give him a call. 1-6m

DR. H. N. CREPIN,

Physician and Surgeon, formerly assistant in the Hospital du midi in Paris, and attached to the New York Hospital, New York—recently from Dubuque, Iowa. Office in Virginia City, opposite the hay scales, main street. 1-6m

S. T. BUTLER,

Practical Watchmaker and Jeweler. Particular attention paid to repairing all classes of watches. Any part of any watch can be made new at this establishment, and warranted to give satisfaction.—Call and examine specimens of Jewelry made from the native gold. 1-1y

CALIFORNIA HOTEL,

Nevada City, Montana Territory.

LOUIS BELANGER, - - - - - Proprietor.

This hotel is situated on Main street, and in the best part of the City. The table supplied with the best the market affords, and the saloon furnished with the best liquors.

Rooms and beds can be had at reasonable prices. Charges for board moderate. 2

FOUND.

A CERTIFICATE OF TEN SHARES OF THE consolidated Silver Star Company. The owner by proving property and paying for this advertisement can have the same at the City Book Store, Virginia City. 4—tf

MECHANICAL BAKERY,

Cuver street, Virginia City, M. T. Kendle & Vincent, proprietors. Keep on hand all kinds of bread, cakes and pies, which are going off like "hot cakes," at cheap rates. 1-6m

BUSINESS CARDS.

IDAHO HOTEL,

Wallace street, Virginia City, M. T. J. M. Castner proprietor. The proprietor announces to his old friends and the public generally, that he is now prepared to accommodate boarders by the meal, day or week at low rates. His table furnished with the best the market affords. 1-1y

LEWIS & HALE,

Manufacturers of Jewelry, Jackson street, Virginia City, M. T. Strict attention given to repairing all classes of watches, and warranted to give satisfaction. Keep constantly on hand a large assortment of Jewelry. Every thing in our line made to order at low rates. 1-3m

COLORADO

HAIR DRESSING ROOM.

Hair Dyeing and Cutting Done in GOOD STYLE.

TOM. WHITE, Proplietor.

3—1y

Wm. DECKER.

Surgeon Dentist.

OFFICE IN POST OFFICE BUILDING. PATients visited at their residence when defired. tf—3

ROATH & CO.,

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. 3—6m

Wm. DECKER.

INTELLIGENCE OFFICE,

Real Estate and Mining Agency.

All business promptly attended to. Office in Post Office Building 4—tf

J. T. HENDERSON,

PAINTER AND SIGN WRITER.

Office on Covertreet, Virginia City. 5—6m

LIME AND BRICK.

BY

HENRY BAIER.

Also Flue Building, and all kinds of brick work done to order. 5—3m

Wm. CHUMASERO.

ATTORNEY AT LAW, VIRGINIA CITY, MONtana Territory. Office, corner of Wallace and Jackson streets, at J. A. Ming's Store. 4—1r

Shaving and Hair Dressing Saloon.

MUSTACHE AND HAIR COLORING.

South Side of Wallace Street, Va. City

LYONS & WHITE, Proprietors.

3—1y

JOHN S. ATCHISON,

NOTARY PUBILC.

REVENUE STAMPS AND BLANKS FOR SALE AT

ALLEN & MILLARD'S BANK.

VIRGINIA CITY, MONTANA TERRITORY. 4—tf

PEOPLE'S MARKET.

Wallace St., Next Door to Weary's New Bank.

MEATS, VEGETABLES, GAME, &c., &c., &c.

STEWART & BALL.

4—tf

LUMBER YARD.

Idaho street, Virginia City, M. T. James Gennall, proprietor. Keeps constantly on hand all kinds of the best lumber, which will be sold at low rates. 1-1y

STAR BAKERY AND SALOON,

Nevada City, M. T. Patrick Ryan, proprietor.—All persons wishing good bread are requested to call. Prices low. Also, beer furnished with the best of drinks. Here is the place to get an honest loaf, a cake or pie, and "something to wash it down." 1-6m

PLANTER'S HOUSE

Corner of Idaho and Jackson Sts., Virginia City, Montana Territory.

WM. & JOHN A. SHOOT

(Formerly of the Planter's House, Hannibal Mo.)

PROPRIETORS.

THE ABOVE NAMED HOUSE, FORMERLY conducted by Wm. Sloan, Esq., having been enlarged and re-fitted is now open with every facility for the accommodation of Guests and Boarders. Comfortable rooms and beds are provided and the table is carefully furnished with the best the market and seasons afford.

Passengers for the early Stage Coaches can obtain good lodgings here and be wakened at the proper hour. The patronage of the public is respectfully solicited. Wm. & Jno. A. SHOOT, Proprietors. 4—tf

F. C. Cornell, M. D. S. L. F. Ward, M. D.

Drs. CORNELL & WARD.

PHYSICIANS & SURGEONS.

(Successors to)

Drs. BROOKE & GLICK.

Office on Jackson Street, below Wallace, Virginia City, Montana Territory. 1y—12

WISCONSIN HOUSE.

Idaho Street, Opposite Recorder's Office.

Will give Board and Lodging at $14 00 per week. Any one who wants warm, comfortable and clean beds, meals and liquors, let them call and see

CARPENTER.

12—tf

THE GOVERNOR'S MESSAGE.

To the Legislative Assembly of the Territory of Montana.

To the Honorable Council and House of Representatives of the Legislative Assembly of the Territory of Montana:

Gentlemen:—You have met here the representatives of the people, in the first Legislative Assembly of the Territory of Montana. To your hands is committed the honorable but responsible duty of enacting such laws as may conduce to the happiness and prosperity of the people. To enact the first laws; to set in motion the machinery of a government for a young but rapidly growing Territory, is a task of no ordinary import, and the limited time assigned for your labors by the act of organization, will require of you the most patient industry and unswerving devotion to business. I have no doubt you have assembled with the energy and resolute purpose commensurate with the high and responsible duties you have assumed, and it becomes my duty, as well as my highest pleasure to co-operate with you in every measure for the advancement of the interest of the people of this Territory.

TERRITORIAL PROSPERITY.

In the prosecution of our labors, we should find abundant encouragement and incentive in the unparalleled growth and prosperity of our Territory. But a few years since the country now embraced in the Territory of Montana was little better known than the interior of Africa. A few explorers had passed over it; a few hunters and trappers had found their way into its mountain fastnesses, but its vast resources were unknown—the rich deposits of precious metals lay concealed, awaiting the all-enduring energy and patient research of the hardy miner. It is now only a little more than two years since gold was first discovered here, and less than six months since our territorial organization, and now we rival the oldest of our sister Territories in population, and are inferior to none in future promise.—Within this short time, large settlements have been made; society has been organized, and towns and cities have sprung up with a rapidity and growth that challenges credulity and almost realizes the wildest dream of romance. And when we take into consideration the distance we are from the settled portions of our country; the long stretch of desert and mountain which intervenes, the growth of this Territory seems indeed marvellous, and speaks well for the energy and enterprise of our people. The tide of immigration which has set in upon us with such force during the past year, will increase in power and magnitude with each succeding year; thousands in the States are now looking to this Territory as the field for future enterprise and at no distant day our population will not only warrant, but require our admission as one of the States of the American Union.

ROADS TO THE STATES.

In view of the immense immigration flocking to our Territory, I would respectfully call your attention to the importance of the construction of a road to the States more direct than any that has yet been opened. The usual route from the Missouri river, both for immigration and freight, is now by way of Fort Laramie, South Pass and the Lander road, or by the still more circuitous one up the South Platte, through Bridger's Pass and Great Salt Lake City. These routes impose upon every person seeking our Territory, not only hundreds of miles of unnecessary travel, but the crossing and recrossing of the Rocky Mountains. I am sure that a more feasible route can be established to the north-western States, shortening the distance six or seven hundred miles, and avoiding altogether the necessity of crossing the Rocky Mountains. I believe that Congress has already, by an act approved June 30th, 1864, established a post road from Sioux City, in the State of Iowa, *via* Yankton, in the Territory of Dakota, Niobrarah, in Nebraska; to Gallatin, in our own Territory. This route is perhaps as direct and unexceptionable as any that could be selected, and would form a continuous and nearly direct route from the north-western States to Walla Walla. Could this road be opened, it would be of inestimable value to this Territory, forming, as it would, a great highway through the very heart of our Territory, connecting us more nearly with the east and the west—the Atlantic and Pacific States. I would, therefore, recommend that you memorialize Congress upon this subject, asking for an appropriation sufficient to open the road at an early period, and I trust that our Delegate will, at the earliest possible moment, urge upon Congress the importance of this measure, which so vitally affects our prosperity.

MINING INTERESTS.

The mining interests of our Territory will claim your early and earnest consideration. The new discoveries of gold and silver establish beyond a reasonable doubt that this is to be not only one of the richest but one of the most permanent mining countries on the continent. These facts, now so well demonstrated, will invite capital and labor, and these valleys will soon resound with the clash of machinery taking from our mountains the untold wealth which for ages has awaited the hand of industry. I would call your special attention to an act passed by the legislative assembly of the Territory of Idaho, and approved Feb. 4th, 1864, entitled "An act relating to the discovery of gold and silver quartz leads, and of the manner of their location." It appears to me that this law is inadequate to the wants of our people, and some of its provisions unjust and oppressive. The 5th section of this act reads as follows: "Quartz claims recorded in accordance with the provision of section 4 of this act, shall entitle the person so recording, to hold the same to the use of himself, his heirs or assigns. *Provided*, That within six months after date of recording, he shall perform, or cause to be performed thereon, work amounting in value to the sum of one hundred dollars." The proviso in this section appears to me to be particularly unwise. It bears with great severity upon that hardy and persevering class of men who have endured so much privation and labor in bringing to light the resources of the country. Whatever obstacle in the way of legislation is thrown into the path of the prospector, will retard our progress and development. When capital and machinery have found their way into this Territory sufficient to work these mines, then it will be for the interest of persons holding claims to open them, and it will require no legislation to quicken the promptings of self-interest, but until that time, the expenditure proposed would be simply a waste of time and money. I would further suggest whether it would not be advisable to reduce a quartz claim from 200 to 100 feet in length, and also whether the number of claims on a lode should not be limited each way from discovery.

THE SEIGNORAGE ACT.

Intimately connected with this subject is another in which the people of this Territory feel a deep and sensitive interest. I allude to the schemes introduced into Congress for the disposal and taxation of mineral lands. While I am confident that the general government would intentionally do nothing to our detriment, yet through a misconception of our true situation, and the peculiar nature of mining interests, it might inflict upon us an irreparable injury. We should be willing, as we are, to do our part in support of the government under which we live, but we should raise our protest against such measures which strike a direct blow at our prosperity. The life of the miner is one of privation and hardship, and mining is proverbially precarious. The claim which to-day appears inexhaustible, may to-morrow be worthless. The miner should pay like every other man upon what he is worth, and taxation should rest, not upon the unknown and possible, but upon the knownand actual. Government should find its support in the wealth that is, and not in the wealth that may be. I hope that we have heard the last of such measures, and that Government will adhere to its long established policy. The government of the United States has too deep an interest in these mining districts to legislate rashly. From them is to be drawn the wealth that is to sustain its credit and redeem its promises—and every miner who lifts the pick and shovel is an ally of Government, and every pound of gold taken out, adds to its stability and power. That mad proposition made at the last session of Congress to have Government seize the mines and turn off the miners, was a blow aimed alike at us and the Government of which we are a part, and had its origin in the rancor of disloyalty. If mining is to be taxed, (which I think it should not be) the least oppressive and least offensive method would be to tax the gold at the mint, where ultimately most of the gold will find its way.

I would suggest the propriety of your memorializing Congress upon this subject.

INDIAN AFFAIRS.

The past year has been one of peace and prosperity to the people of this Territory. The numerous Indian tribes within our borders have manifested a friendly disposition, and few acts of violence or lawlessness have been perpetrated. It is for the best interests of this Territory that these amicable relations should be cultivated and continued. While I shall endeavor to punish with promptness and severity any Indian aggression upon our settlements, I shall, at the same time, hold to a strict accountability any who may trespass upon the rights of the Indian. In this way only, can peace be maintained. You will determine whether any additional legislation is necessary for the punishment of lawless and unprincipled men, who engage in unlawful traffic with the Indians. I trust that the Government will, at an early day, take steps for the extinguishment of the Indian title in this Territory, in order that our lands may be brought into market.

AGRICULTURAL RESOURCES.

The agricultural interests of this Territory claim your earnest consideration. Most of the necessaries of life have heretofore been brought from the States or Salt Lake valley—hundreds of miles over mountanious roads. This has rendered prices almost fabulous—taking from the miner much of his hard earninge. Our population is increasing with such rapidity that we cannot longer depend upon foreign supplies. We must look to ourselves, and as soon as possible, become a self-sustaining people. While mining, as now, will ever constitute the paramount interest, yet agriculture must form the enduring basis of our prosperity. Without it, we are but tributaries to, and dependencies upon, surrounding but far distant settlements. Our necessities will constitute the measure of their demands, and we shall remain the victims of a heartless cupidity; and this, too, while we can boast of as fertile lands, of as rich valleys, as any country on the continent. Wheat, and indeed all the cereals, can be raised here in abundance, as the past year has fully demonstrated, and every vegetable that can be raised in the States grows here much more abundantly. Stock, which in other countries requires so much labor and forethought to provide for its winter subsistence, here lives and fattens through the winter in our valleys. I know of no country so inviting to the husbandman as this, where labor meets with such sure and munificent rewards. To your fostering care and encouragement I commit this great interest.

EDUCATION.

It will devolve upon you to devise some system of education to meet the immediate wants of our people. The Government, with a wise forethought, has made liberal provisions for this purpose in the Organic Act, setting apart two sections of land in each township, for the establishment of a school fund. With proper care, these lands will furnish a rich endowment for our common schools, placing them upon a sure and permanent basis. But these lands are not now available, and it may be years before we can realize any considerable advantage from them. Hundreds of children are now in the Territory, which a wise legislation will not permit to grow up in ignorance; for, in a free government like ours, where public measures are submitted to the judgment of the people, it is of the highest importance that that people should be so educated as to understand the bearing of public measures. A self-ruling people must be an educated people, or prejudice and passion will assume the power, and anarchy will soon usurp the authority of government. Children are in one sense, the property of the public, and it is one of the highest and most solemn duties of the State to furnish ample provision for their education. It has been well said by a distinguished jurist that it is cheaper to educate the boy than to punish the man, and if the education of the boy is neglected, the punishment of the man may become a necessity, for crime and ignorance go hand in hand.

MAIL FACILITIES.

Our mail facilities are altogether inadequate to meet the wants of our extended and growing population. A mail route should be established from Virginia City to Gallatin; another from Virginia City to Fort Benton *via* Prickly Pear Valley, and one from Bannack City to Jocko, with post offices at Willow Creek, Fort Owen, Hell Gate and Jocko. I would recommend that you memorialize the Post Master General and ask for this additional mail service.

TAXATION.

The question of taxation will be one of no small difficulty, and will require much of your time. Taxation should be as light as the necessities of the public will permit. A sufficient amount of money must be raised by taxation to meet the internal and municipal wants of the Territory. Political economists have said that no tax law can be absolutely just and equal. Yet wise legislation should aim at justice and equality so that no class or occupation shall bear an undue proportion of the public burden.

NATIONAL CURRENCY.

The subject of currency is beginning to agitate the minds of our people and many are of the opinion that interest and patriotism alike require our adoption of the National Currency. Wherever it has been adopted, either in State or Territory, the increasing prosperity of the people has attested the wisdom of the measure. The loyal States that have adopted this currency notwithstanding the burdens of a gigantic and protracted war are prosperous beyond all former precedent and the people are richer than when the war commenced. Gold Dust with us is an article of trade, and when we attempt to make it a currency we close the door against the introduction of foreign capital. California alone among the loyal States has refused the adoption of the National Currency—the effect upon her has been most disastrous. The Governor of that State, in alluding to this subject, makes use of the following language: "Here in California the enterprise that would develope our unbounded resources is checked and repressed for the want of capital; while the necessary amount to supply the deficiency is waiting at our doors to have its entrance invited and its standard of value adopted." If such has been the effect of this policy upon a comparatively old State like California, what must be its consequences in an infant Territory like ours. Let us adopt this currency, and capital will find its way here in abundance to quicken enterprise and enlarge the field of industry.

PENITENTIARY.

It may be necessary during this session to make some provision for the confinement of criminals; if no suitable building can be obtained, one should be erected as soon as possible. I have no doubt Congress will make a liberal appropriation for that purpose.

THE WAR.

Although we are far removed from the scene of strife which is devastating one portion of our country, we cannot be indifferent to the result of the struggle. We are a part of the great American Nation, and a part of that nation we must ever remain. Her interest, her prosperity and glory must ever be dear to the heart of every loyal man. This unhallowed rebellion had its origin in the lust for power and the insane desire to extend and perpetuate human bondage. For years this conspiracy had been plotting, till at a length, under the imbecile administration of James Buchanan, it threw off all disguise and assumed the defiant attitude of treason. Beginning in crime and perfidy, it has sought to establish its power by atrocities the most inhuman and appalling. Ignoring the long established rules of civilized warfare, it has prosecuted the war with a fiendish ferocity that would put to blush the most uncultivated savages. When this war commenced, many in the loyal States, from long political association with the leaders of the rebellion, felt no little sympathy with their cause, and in most of the European Governments they had active and influential advocates; but as the war has progressed their friends have deserted them and they no longer hope for assistance from the Northern States or recognition from abroad. The issue is fully made up between loyalty and treason; the opposing armies are in the field to decide the question by the wager of battle, and between them there is no middle ground. The people of the United States have decided with singular unanimity, in their recent election, for the prosecution of this war which was inaugurated by rebels, until every portion of the country acknowledges the supremacy of the Constitution.

PROSPECTS OF PEACE.

It gives me pleasure to congratulate you on the prospect of a speedy peace. The power of the rebellion is already broken; our victorious armies now occupy the very heart of the rebellious States, and thunder at the gates of their capital. As true and loyal citizens of the United States, we may well rejoice at the triumph of our National arms, and hope, with reasonable assurance, for the restoration of peace. But it must be a peace that assures the integrity of our country, the vindication of our National honor, and the recognition of man's inalienable rights.

CONCLUSION.

Again assuring you of my desire to co-operate with you in every measure of public interest, and invoking the benediction of Heaven upon our labors, I submit to your care and consideration the manifold interests of our Territory.

SIDNEY EDGERTON,
Governor.

How Our Mines are Sold in the East.—We recently published a statement that a large sale of mining interests known as the Pine Mountain Consolidated Company, had lately been made in New York by the well-known Sheba Hurst and associates, for $3,000,000. This statement being doubted by some, we will explain it so far as we ave able by giving some account of how these sales are effected at the East.—The statement published is correct, we believe, as it was furnished by one of the parties interested; but the explanation we give of the mode of effecting sales will enlighten us as to the character of this particular sale. A number of capitalists bargain with the owner of the mine to give them a certain sum of money and a certain portion of stock for it. They then form a joint stock incorporation; issue, say one-half of the stock and sell it in the market for cash, which constitutes the "working fund." The stock, it must be borne in mind, is made unassessable, and therefore sells for fifty to seventy-five cents on the dollar of its par value, according to the success of the operators. Let us suppose a case like the one mentioned, where there are four ledges of 1,500 feet each, making 6,000 feet as the basis of the incorporation. The claims are valued at $500 per foot, making the $3,000,000. The cash or working capital is to be $1,000,000. Suppose the stock is divided into 30,000 shares of $100 each, and one-half is sold at about sixty-seven cents on the dollar—thus the sum of $1,000,000 is realized as a working fund, and half of the stock is still held by the originators of the scheme and the owners of the mine. The stock not offered in market to realize the working fund is withheld by the trustees from issue, so that it shall not come into competition. To arrive at an idea of what the owners of the claims realize from the transaction, let us suppose that each of the three locators in this Pinewood mine which was sold, receives $100,000 in cash and the same amount in stock, which would leave $700,000 of the fund and $1,200,000 of the stock remaining. Suppose that to make the scheme more attractive they set aside the $200,000 of stock to be sold in future if needed, to increase the fund. That would leave $1,000,000 of stock for the corporators who got up the incorporation. As these men must realize some money in hand from the transaction, the purchase of the mine is supposed to have cost three-quarters of a million instead of $300,000, which leaves $250,000 actually in the treasury to work the mine with, and $200,000 in stock to be sold to increase the fund. As work is done and machinery erected the mine becomes valuable and the stock saleable, enabling the originators who hold the balance of the stock to sell, and thus realize more money. If based upon really good claims as those in question are believed to be, the transaction is legitimate and honorable; if upon claims known to be worthless, it is like other wild cat operations, and is unjustifiable. We think the system upon which claims are incorporated at the East much better than our own. If a number of men are convinced that a ledge or several together are valuable and worth developing, let them associate for the purpose, take a portion of the stock themselves and pay the cash for it and offer the stock in market also, so as to realize the amount thought necessary to develope the mine, and then expend it in doing so. If successful the stock will become vauable, if not, only a certain sum has been risked, and there are no assessments to pay. We believe it would do more to kill wild-cat stocks and bring our mining operations into a legitimate channel than anything else that can be done. Under such a system, a man risks a certain sum in one mine and a certain sum in another. He pays it out on the start and knows the exact extent it costs him. He does not get a lot of stocks on hand that he must pay assessments on or lose, for the stock is unassessable, therefore the assessments cannot embarrass him as they now do. It would very materially reduce the risk and also simplify our mining operations. We hope to see this system inaugurated here. *Virginia Union.*

Baltimore, Nov. 26.

The evening edition of the American publishes the following:

The city is full of rumors to-day in relation to a raid on the line of the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad, but up to the time of going to press we have not been able to ascertain anything definite. One of the reports is that New Creek has been captured by the raiders and another is that Piedmont is also in their hands. We only give these reports as current rumors, and cannot vouch for their correctness.—New Creek has been for some time strongly fortified, and if it has been captured we should have heard some of the particulars by telegraph.

The Commercial's Washington special says, Roger A. Pryor has just been escorted along Pennsylvania Avenue under guard to the old capitol. He wore a handsome uniform of gray and nodded familiarly to old acquaintances.