

THE MONTANA POST.

Saturday, July 28, 1866.

OUR AGENTS in the different towns and mining camps of the Territory and elsewhere, will please take notice that the terms of subscription for the Post have been increased to \$3.50 per quarter, \$5 for six months, and \$8 for one year.

THE LEGISLATURE AND TAXES, AGAIN.

Our neighbor's leader is unfortunate in his facts. He represents Detwiler, Buck, Courtright, Lawrence and Worden, as Republicans. However this may be to-day—a matter with which we are not acquainted—they were not so in the Bannack Legislature. Beaverhead was the only county in the Territory in which the Democrats were not overwhelmingly triumphant. This fact is too recent in the minds of the people, for any sharp practice upon their gullibility. The Democracy of Montana have made all the legislation of the Territory, and if they legislate more money into Republican hands than they intended, it may be very disagreeable for them to reflect upon, but we cannot see why the Republicans are to blame for taking it; or how, thereby, they are chargeable with the imposition of inordinate taxes upon the people. As a mere matter of patriotism, they might have declined to take the pay voted into their pockets; but this is a virtue that does not particularly distinguish any political parties or officials. It is the first time in our experience—now not a short one—that we ever heard one party blamed for taking what the other freely gave it, or witnessed so bold and palpable an attempt of one party to make another responsible for its own extravagance and recklessness.

Our neighbor is muddled. He flounders as badly as poor Christian did in the slough of Despond, in his efforts to extricate himself from a most embarrassing dilemma. But there is no other door open for him than that of provocation or misrepresentation. We are sorry to say that the evidences of both, in his article, are too numerous to escape the appreciation of every candid reader of both parties; and now, with more confidence than ever, we repeat the charge made in last week's Post—that the Democratic party of Montana is responsible for all the heavy taxes with which the Democrat says the people of the Territory are oppressed. That party made the laws which imposed the taxation—and but for which, neither Republican or Federal officers could have obtained a dollar of Territorial scrip.

But have these virtuous law-makers forgotten to pay themselves? How much did they vote themselves, for their patriotic services at Bannack? What amount did they declare their disinterested labors to be worth, in the body which assembled in this city, to reduce taxation last spring? How much does our indignant neighbor expect to get for publishing the laws passed at that time? Talk of taxation! Is taxation reduced? Are the burdens of the people removed? Is there no cause of complaint, that some of the money of the Territory has already gone, and much more is going to pay for the most stupendous piece of charlatanism ever practiced upon a submissive people? Our neighbor understands his business. It is the old habit, this, of throwing sand into the eyes of the people, to blind them to the practice of the same offence which is so lavishly charged upon others.

The Democrat cannot escape the issue it has made by lugging in matters foreign to it. We are now talking of taxation, not of elections, or corrupt voting. Let them come up in their turn. Let us dispose of one thing at a time. Answer sir, to the people who you are attempting to deceive, and to the officers, who you have unjustly misrepresented, if the laws imposing taxation and making appropriations, have all been set in motion by Democrats, how is it, that any but Democrats are responsible for their pernicious results? Make your charges good. The people cannot but be anxious to understand, and all your tables and figures will turn with overwhelming effect against your party unless you clear this matter up.

There are good men among the rank and file of the Montana Democracy, and we would fain believe, that even among the officials, there are some virtues left. They look to your paper for enlightenment. They cannot but see and feel, the unfortunate *faux pas* you have made, and will await with no little anxiety your explanation. Let us have it without delay.

CHOPS IN THE GALLATIN.—We learn from Dr. Frary, who has just returned from the Gallatin Valley, that the wheat crop is for the most part, in a promising condition. The grasshoppers have attacked only the small portion of it which was sowed too late—this will be destroyed. The other, and greater part of the crop, will be a decided success. Garden vegetables have been mostly destroyed, oats and barley injured, but of potatoes, though injured, there will be a fair yield. The valley is a perfect emerald in appearance, has been recently visited by several refreshing showers, and the grass is equal to any in the world. Settlers are coming in rapidly, and it promises by another year to become the garden spot of the mountains. Good ranches are much sought after.

THE YELLOWSTONE.

Frequent inquiries are made concerning the character of this river, and the country through which it flows. It is one of the most beautiful streams on the continent. The most practicable approach to it, is at the canon, thirty miles beyond Roseman, one hundred miles distant from this city. That has been the point of departure for the several boat expeditions, that have within the past two years been made, *via* the Yellowstone and Missouri, to the States. It is remarkable for some of the most stupendous scenery amid the Rocky Mountains. The rocks on either side of the river for many miles, are several thousand feet vertical height—and seen through the gorge formed by them, the Rocky Mountains furnish a background of wonderful grandeur and sublimity. For many miles down the river, the outlines of this majestic scene, are visible to the beholder, and it seems by distance to increase in enchantment.

The river for eighty miles below the canon runs between abrupt banks, covered with verdure, presenting at almost every angle small coves of cottonwood. The rapids are very numerous, and many of them calculated to alarm the voyager who for the first time ventures down them, though with skillful pilotage, they are void of danger. There is nothing in this part of the river of any interest. The land is too high for cultivation, the grasses which cover it are stunted and thin. The river is full of fine trout and bass, and the numerous sedge islands are inhabited by a great variety of water fowl.

Gradually widening, the river suddenly presents on either bank lofty cliffs of yellow sandstone, which at first, are some distance from its margin, but soon they approach it so closely as to confine the stream, and overhang with their craggy summits its agitated surface. The perpendicular sides of these cliffs have been curiously eroded by the elements, into the appearance of hieroglyphics, which cover them from base to summit. In many instances, the characters following the stratification, seem to be lined like the characters delineated on the old Egyptian temples of Edou and Luxor, and to make the resemblance more perfect, many of the rocks are capped with tower like, or castellated tops, or spring into pyramids. The intervals which occur in these cliffs, are occupied by cottonwood groves of prolific growth and superabundant foliage, which jut into the river, and on every side are so regular and uniform, that it is almost impossible to resist the belief that they have not been both planted and trimmed by the hand of man, and are in fact the cultivated grounds belonging to some old mediæval castle. Whenever a cliff is overhanging, it gives protection to myriads of swallow's nests beneath the shelving rock. Unequal in height, varying from one hundred to three hundred feet, many of these crags towering above the river, and seen for many miles along its beautiful reaches, resemble extensive fortifications and citadels. Occasionally for several miles they border the river, and rise to such a height as to interrupt the sun's rays, giving a sombre cast to the river, while passing between them.

This yellow sandstone rock, with only occasional interruptions, traverses the line of the river at greater and lesser distances from its margin for more than three hundred miles. The country beyond the ridge stretches out into plains on either side, which at the distance of from two to four miles are skirted by heavy uplands sparsely covered with stunted timber. These plains are covered with grass, and afford the finest ranges in the world for Buffalo, Antelope and Elk, herds of which may often be seen by the voyager, roaming their immense extents. They are probably, for climate, timber, soil, and convenience of irrigation, the finest agricultural lands in Montana.

The water of Clark's Fork, Big Horn and Rosebud, bring with them from the mountains large quantities of debris which imparts to the Yellowstone a milky appearance, that increases in density from the mouth of Clark's Fork, until it reaches Powder River, at the commencement of the Bad Lands, where the color changes to a drab almost as dark as that of the Missouri.

The passage of this river through the Bad Lands is quite as remarkable as its passage through the Sandstone. The banks are entirely bare. Lofty pinnacles of clay, stratified with innumerable shades of color rise on either hand, frequently to the height of a thousand feet. Groves of stunted cottonwood, apparently crowded in between these pinnacles, furnish a melancholy contrast to the gorgeous groves further up the river. Ranges of low hills which have been burnt until the material of which they are formed, has become one solid red brick, some with table summits, and others conical and sharp, cover the surface of the country in all directions. The river becomes sluggish, expands to more than a mile in width, and is filled with shifting islands of sand. There is not a foot of soil to be seen that can be

cultivated, and the earth is impracticable for any kind of physical improvement.

Nearly the entire distance of this passage, the banks on each side of the river present from one to three well defined veins of resinous coal, varying from two to eight feet in thickness. This coal burns readily, emits a bituminous odor, and can be found in greater quantities in this locality, than probably any other in the world. Want of a good cover might probably present an insurmountable barrier to its successful development, but in all other respects, it is not surpassed by any coal placer in America.

A few miles before it empties into the Missouri, the river takes the character of that stream, the banks are low and constantly changing, sand bars are frequent, snags abundant, and all interest in scenery ceases.

We think the Yellowstone might be navigated to the foot of Wolf rapids, one hundred and fifty miles above its mouth. Those rapids are probably more dangerous than any other in the river, but in less than a hundred miles above them are Bear rapids, which are very shallow, and filled with large rocks—forty or fifty miles above them are Buffalo shoals, where for more than six miles the river is very rapid, and ordinarily less than two feet in depth. The bottom is composed of the yellow sandstone which is very hard, and crosses the river at that point in the ledge. It would be impossible to improve it. All thought of ascending the river by steam to the Big Horn must be given up. The best improvement that could be made would be a wagon road along the bank, from the foot of Wolf rapids—a work that could be constructed without any serious difficulty.

We trust, now that military posts are to be established on Big Horn, and at the mouth of Clark's Fork, that military roads may be made in sufficient numbers over this as yet unexplored portion of the Territory, to demonstrate the practicability of its early settlement and improvement by more permanent thoroughfares.

"Montana"—An Address.

We have been handed a neatly gotten up pamphlet, containing an address delivered by our Chief Justice, the Hon. H. L. Hosmer, before the Travelers' Club, New York City, January 1866.

The publishing of addresses by prominent individuals, has grown into a practice "more honored in the breach than the observance;" but the present is a marked and honorable exception to the rule we have laid down. It is the work of a gentleman and a scholar, who, having eyes to see, intelligence to grasp, and taste to appreciate the marvellous beauties and natural riches of our favored land, has, in language frequently poetic and always just, recorded with the pencil of the tourist, the facts of the economist and the weird imaginings of the lover of nature, surrounded by the hitherto undescribed glories that encircle the shining rivers which bear to the Mexican Gulf the waters which first descended in snow on the crown-sand slopes of the Rocky Mountains, the queen range of the world.

The pamphlet we are examining, contains a brief but correct epitome of the "uprisings, downfallings, and complete career" of our illustrious Uncle's youngest daughter—Montana. Geographically, statistically, politically, commercially and ethnologically, there is a compendium of valuable and necessary information, which will prove very useful to our Eastern friends, and very entertaining to the best posted of our own citizens and Western neighbors. We feel extremely glad that the good taste of the Judge's friends has prevented the loss to the public of his remarks, which must have happened if the address had not been rescued from unmerited oblivion by the aid of the "art preservative." The New York Printing Company executed the work with great accuracy and considerable beauty.

RESOURCES OF MONTANA.

We have this week to add to the intelligence which is constantly reaching us of the richness of our territory, the recent discoveries made by an exploration of the mountains, fifteen miles west of our city, across the Madison. Prospectors, some time ago, stated that coal and iron could be found there, but gave no idea of their extent or richness. During the past week, Professor Henke of this city accompanied by Assessor Everts, has spent several days in exploring this region. His reports are highly satisfactory. Within a distance of five miles, he found coal, iron, slate, and several varieties of sienite. Of the extent of either of these products, the Professor is not yet prepared to speak, but he was so well pleased with the indications that he has concluded to spend some time in making further explorations.

We have seen specimens of the coal and iron. The coal burns freely, has a brilliant fracture, and when subjected to the blow-pipe, emits a bituminous odor, similar to that of the coal of Western Pennsylvania. The width and extent

of the veins it is, as yet, impossible to determine, but we learn, that they have a good cover of slate, and can be worked by drifting with success. The iron ore exhibited to us, was equal to any we have ever seen, in weight and purity. It is believed that there is a very large mountainous deposit of this mineral in the immediate vicinity of the place where the specimens were found. Iron is found in all parts of the Territory, but no explorations have yet been made, to determine its extent or richness in any one locality. State is equal to the best that is found in Vermont and New Hampshire, and exists in very large quantities.

If so, it can be afforded at prices much under those that we now pay for shingles. A more valuable or useful article, in the future growth of our Territory, will hardly be found in it.

The sienite is very pure, possessing the three components, mica, hornblende and felspar—and exactly resembling in color the purest specimens of Massachusetts sienite. As this locality is easily made accessible by a good road, the time may not be very far distant when we shall see some of the primitive buildings of Virginia superceded by more beautiful structures of this material.

In the springs, in the vicinity of the coal deposits, we are told, there are indications of petroleum. This article will undoubtedly be found, if the coal proves as extensive as is now believed. The country is rich in grass, and adjacent to agricultural lands in the valley of the Madison, and not so far from Virginia, that it may not in a very short time, and at comparatively slight expense, be made to contribute vastly, to the material prosperity of her citizens.

LETTER FROM DEER LODGE.

DEER LODGE, July 24th, 1866.

ED. POST:—'Tis quite a long time since I have acted the part of items gatherer for your paper, thinking that you would soon regard me as *non est*, I once more take up the pen to advise you concerning matters hereabouts.

THE U. S. MAIL.

We were to have on July 1st, has as yet, failed to make its appearance, and Oliver & Co. still serve us instead. It is not unlikely that old Ben has sunk the mail sacks in a mud-hole, somewhere along his line, or cut up some kind of a caper to deprive his dear friends in Montana of the good intentions of uncle Sam. I notice that "Everywhere" in referring to the subject, remarks that Col. McLean, our indefatigable Delegate, was not entitled to any thanks for the facilities afforded. It is known to whom we are indebted, and I will therefore state that the credit of the whole matter is mainly due to that whole-souled patriarch of the mountains, Major John Owens, of Fort Owen, Bitter Root Valley. It was mainly through his efforts too, that the dividing line between Montana and Idaho was located where it is, on the Coeur d'Alene mountains, instead of making the Rocky range the border which would thus have given Idaho the best portion of our Territory.

THE U. S. DISTRICT COURT, Second District, Hon. L. P. Williston presiding, convened here on June 25th, and adjourned after a short session, during which the cases of the violators of the Indian Intercourse Act, who were indicted last year, were disposed of. A change of venue to the Third District, being granted in case of the United States vs. sundry goods wares and merchandise, etc., claimed by B. Levi, and seized for non-payment of import duties. This is a very important case, some \$20,000 being involved. In the Third District a nolle prosequi was entered in the case we hear.

Too much praise cannot be awarded the U. S. Marshal and his efficient deputies in bringing to justice the offenders against the Intercourse act, and though a few have suffered, great good has been accomplished in the entire cessation of sale of liquors in the Indian country.

There were no cases arising under the Revenue law, brought before this term of the Court, which I fear is more than can be said at its next term unless some who are delinquent "spud up."

EEL CREEK.

has depreciated somewhat in the estimation of a few lately, but chiefly on account of the failure of water.

Bear Gulch presents quite an animated appearance, and a large amount of work is being done in development of that place.

Henderson and Harvey gulches are proving very good, and quite recently some new discoveries have been made in the vicinity of the former creek. It is said there are now one thousand men at the new diggings. They are reported to pay well, and are very shallow, being only from two to three feet to the bed-rock.

SILVER BOW.

Butte City, and Oro Fino, are all better camps than ever before, and a large number of men are being employed at those places. There is in course of construction at the former place two ditches for the purpose of taking water from

the eastern slope of the Rocky mountains to the western, one of which is from Boulder and the other from Divide creek a feat never before attempted, and one which will prove a perfect success, and accomplished not through the the experience of California "49-ers-self-risers" or Coloradans, and regular "tender-feet."

THE TERRITORIAL DIST. COURT.

Is in session at this place, Judge Williston presiding, E. F. Phelps, Esq., District Attorney. But few criminal cases are on the docket, and those of little importance, notwithstanding the fact that there are to-day two murderers within the bounds of the district. The murderer of Craft, who was killed at Hill Gate last December, was released this spring Hon. T. M. Pomeroy, Probate Judge of Missoula county, on a writ of habeas corpus, on the ground that the justice who held him for trial had no authority so to do, claiming that he was illegally elected, as the County Commissioners failed to set off the County into townships at their first meeting, as required by law. A pretty pretence, surely, on which to release a red-handed murderer. It is to be expected however, for Pomeroy is an appointee of our highly respectable and worthy Governor, Thomas Francis (what's the rest of it?). The Acting One set his man Friday an example, in the release of Daniels, and he is therefore not to be held responsible. This reminds me of a little chef d'auteur attempted last spring, by Thos. Francis, assisted by his bogus Legislature, in depositing Mr. Phelps, who was legally elected to the office of District Attorney, and the placing of L. McMurry, Esq., in his stead. Mac is a good fellow, socially, but his politics, what! they're some, and being of the same order to which Thomas had been converted, said Thomas was desirous of showing his appreciation of Mac's sentiments. He therefore cooks up a scheme to declare the election of District Attorneys illegal, claiming the power to appoint them himself, and therefore has a bill passed meeting his plans. He then straightway turns about and appoints all those elected excepting Mr. P., and sends McMurry a commission for the office. Mac seeing the absurdity of the thing, declined to have anything to do with it, although it was Mr. Phelps' intention to contest the case, for the mere purpose of having his rights, even at a pecuniary loss, for the office pays nothing, comparatively.

FROM BITTER ROOT.

We hear the most glowing accounts of the crops, the farmers all unite in saying they never saw better prospects for an abundant harvest in any part of the world.

There is estimated to be twelve hundred acres of wheat sown, and a proportionate amount of vegetables and other cereals. The farmers say they are not troubled in the slightest degree with insects of any sort, attributing their absence entirely to X AND HIS GRASSHOPPER MACHINE, with which he cleaned them all out when he was there last fall. They feel very grateful towards the "little one," and talk of sending him some cabbage, so he can go speculating again, as he did when flour was short in Virginia, a year or more ago. If you want to know the kind of venture he engaged in at that time ask "X," he'll tell you.

I learn from Major Owen, that the exploring party, sent out by the Secretary of the Interior, numbering twenty-five men, under charge of Mr. Bird, assisted by Col. Craig, and Major Truax, with a complete corps of scientific gentlemen, reached his Fort on the 11th inst. This is the company sent out to make a survey of a new road from Lewiston to Virginia, for which purpose Congress, in the spring of 1865, appropriated the insignificant sum of fifty thousand dollars! They came via the Lolo fork, and report the route as being of a practicable character. Whatever succeeded in getting the appropriation had some ax-grinding to do, or the improvement of the Mullan road would have been carried out instead, which would have been of infinite more value to Montana.

Don't say we are backward in internal progress and improvement over here for it remained for a Deer Lodge party to first attempt the

NAVIGATION OF THE RIVERS OF MONTANA.

Messrs. James Stuart and Frank Worden, having descended the Deer Lodge and Hell Gate in a boat, making the trip in safety and with great dispatch. This I believe, is the first time a trip of like character has ever been attempted on these rivers.

DANCE STUART & CO.'S NEW STORE, a fine adobe building, fire-proof, is quite completed, and presents a very fine appearance. They have an immense stock of all kinds of goods, and are doing a "smashing trade," for which we are only too glad, as the old Judge and his partners, the Stuarts, are all men of the best stamp.

Well, dear Post, this letter closes our acquaintance, for in the course of a few days your correspondent expects to take his departure from Montana, which he leaves with regret, for among her grand old mountains have been formed associations which are near, and which will

not soon be forgotten, even amid the new and strange scenes of a foreign land. While thus closing an acquaintance which has been of the most pleasant description, let me return my thanks for many courtesies and wish you the success in the venture which has been yours so deservedly and justly, in the past.

Yours truly,

John S. Rookfellow,

Wholesale and Retail

GROCER.

NO. 5, JACKSON STREET.

Virginia City, Montana Territory.

Always on hand a complete assortment of

FAMILY & FANCY GROCERIES.

101W3

Dissolution Notice.

THE co-partnership heretofore existing between George H. Hanna and Thomas Hoopes was this day dissolved by mutual consent. All accounts due the firm will be collected and received by either of us. GEORGE H. HANNA, THOMAS HOOPES, Virginia City, June 19th, 1866.

The business heretofore carried on by George H. Hanna & Co., at their old stand, will be continued by the undersigned. GEORGE H. HANNA, 98-101

Notice.

IN the Probate Court of Beaver Head county, Montana Territory—in the matter of the estate of George Carhart. George Carhart will take notice that his account, filed against said estate at the April term of this Court, A. D. 1865, will be open for re-examination and allowance on the first Monday of October A. D. 1866, to wit, on the first day of October, 1866. THOMAS L. BORDFORD, Probate Judge, 98-101

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The very light and fast steamer

L U E L L A !

Will leave FORT BENTON

ON OR ABOUT SEPTEMBER 1st,

FOR SIOUX CITY, OMAHA,

ST. JOSEPH, LEAVEN-

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For information apply to

JNO. S. ROCKFELLOW, Virginia, M. T.

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300 POUNDS

CARROT SEEDS!

(ORANGE VARIETY.)

FOR sale by J. S. ROCKFELLOW, in quantities to suit purchasers. Orders from the country, accompanied by the cash, promptly attended to.

PRICE—\$5PER POUND.

Virginia City, Feb. 16, 1866. 90

CLOTHING STORE,

M. HELLMAN & CO.,

(NEXT DOOR TO THE STONEWALL)

HAVE JUST RECEIVED FROM NEW YORK CITY, a large and well selected stock of

READY MADE

GENTS' AND BOYS' CLOTHING,

FURNISHING GOODS.

Hats, Boots, and Shoes,

ETC., ETC., ETC.

To be sold at the very lowest rates.

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M. HELLMAN & CO.

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FRANK'S

CONFECTIONERY,

WALLACE STREET.

Virginia City, Montana.

CAKES, PIES, BREAD,

Cookies Canned Fruits,

—AND—

FLAVORING EXTRACTS

Kept constantly on hand.

We have on hand and will receive such goods as

CAKE ORNAMENTS, SUGAR

FLOWERS, PANORAMA EGGS,

BASKETS, FANCY HEARTS,

And Candy Toys of all kinds.

Gum Drops, Cream Fondants,

Honey " French Kisses,

Cream " Ben Bons,

Cordial " Canded Fruits,

Brandy " Chewing Gum.

And all kinds of large and small

STICK CANDY.

Shelled Almonds, Seedless Raisins,

Figs, Dates, Citron, Nuts,

Chocolate, Maple Sugar, Raisins, Jellies,

etc., etc., etc.

A fine lot of Foreign and Domestic

WINES AND CORDIALS.

Anchovies, Holland Herring,

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Canned Chicken, Turkey,

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An endless variety of

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For getting up Ball and Wedding Suppers, we are prepared to complete with any firm in the Territory.

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