

# THE MONTANA POST.

A Newspaper, Devoted to the Mineral, Agricultural and Commercial Interests of Montana Territory.

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WHOLE NO. 124.

## The Montana Post.

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SATURDAY, JANUARY 5, 1867.

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, \$5.00 for six months, and \$8.00 for one year.

### VALEDICTORY.

I vacated the editorial chair of the Post upon the 29th ult. During the last four months, in which I endeavored to wield the "pen and scissors" for the benefit of its readers, I have been treated with uniform courtesy and kindness by all parties with whom I have been associated, and I cheerfully express in this public manner those sentiments of gratitude which I inwardly cherish. With my best wishes for the prosperity of all who are connected with the publication of this journal, and trusting that my successor may enlarge its sphere of usefulness to satisfy the demands of its patrons, I enter the new year with the intention of resuming the practice of my legal profession. HENRY N. BLAKE.

In assuming the position left vacant by the retirement of Capt. Blake from the editorial chair of the Post, we make our best bow to our readers and extend the hand of amity to the brother knights of the "quill and scissors" with a sincere desire that our intercourse will be pleasant and fraternal. Coming among you a stranger, "with malice towards none," we feel assured that "our lines will be cast in pleasant places" and that the proverbial hospitality of the mountain Territory will include us in its "charity for all." To present you with a live Union paper, devoted to the interests of Montana, independent of partisan or sectarian feeling—to uphold the right and oppose the wrong, wherever it may be found, and present a paper containing "the latest and most reliable" news from all sections, shall be our aim and effort while we remain in charge of these columns. To aid us in this, we ask the cooperation of our friends throughout the Territory in furnishing us with accounts of all matters of public interest transpiring in their locality. To the retiring editor, we bid adieu with an earnest wish for his success and happiness wherever his lot may be cast. "May his shadow never grow less" and "may fall lightly upon him as dew upon the mountain." JAS. H. MILLS.

### THE NEW YEAR.

Today begins another year, and its observance as a holiday is time-honored wherever Christianity has spread its benign influences. Sixty-six with all its hopes and fears, its joys and sadness, its brightness and gloom, is folded in the arms of the eternal past. Its record is made up, and the account has gone before the great Auditor, to whom "a day is as a thousand years, and a thousand years as a day." The young and smiling face of sixty-seven peeps over our mountain tops with the first rosy tints of morn, and comes tripping down the valleys close on the footsteps of its predecessor, claiming from us a welcome and a greeting. All hail! New Year—"pure as an angel, gentle as love," sin has not tainted thee, nor folly made thee vain. Welcome to our homes and hearts as a priceless gift from the throne of love. May "peace on earth, and good will to man," be thine to bestow and ours to inherit. The custom of making New Year calls upon friends, and adding to the happiness of the opening year by assurances of continued friendship, is an appropriate and commendable custom which we are glad to see each year becoming more popular, and as the Post is ever desirous of encouraging by good example as well as advice, we make our "morning call," and greet you all with "A Happy New Year." May the bright sunshine of happiness illumine all your pathways, and your journey be by quiet waters, in a valley of spices, through all your days. But while we remember one observance, let us not forget another. This is the day upon which business men close up their accounts, take off the trial balance, and see how they stand with the world. And it is suggestive of that personal account which is kept in each heart, when memory is the tablet upon which is recorded acts and thoughts that conscience posts with unerring accuracy to the credit or the debtor side of one's life account. When we look over its crowded columns and see here and there recorded good resolutions, happy indeed are we if over against them is inscribed,

"faithfully kept." To-day we may open a new account upon an unutilized page, and let the first entry be "good deeds." While we trust that plenty has lavished her store abundantly on every reader of the Post, "the poor we have always with us," and while we enjoy our New Year's dinner of luxuries and dainties, let it be seasoned with the reflection that from our ample store we have given to those who had it not; and the heart will throb with a double thrill of pleasure at the remembrance. We commence the new year under circumstances gratifying to us, and which we hope will be acceptable to our patrons. Our facilities for obtaining information has been enlarged. The telegraph flashes its news into our columns, and a score of able correspondents contribute their efforts to ours. Our table is piled with exchanges from all parts of the continent, and our stock of material is ample to furnish a full paper, weekly and tri-weekly, to all our subscribers. In the next number of the Post we shall commence the publication of a sketch entitled "A trip to America in 1866," by one of the most popular writers of the country. All who wish to obtain this most graphic, mirth provoking, account of a trip by every known means of conveyance, except balloons and legal papers, should subscribe for the Post at once. And now, having tarried with you as long as courtesy permits, we fill to you the "flowing bowl," and with heartfelt thanks for past favors, and hoping to merit their continuance, we drink to each and all, A Happy, Happy New Year!

### REJECTION OF THE CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT.

Whom the Gods wish to destroy, they first make mad.

President Johnson in his last message to Congress devoted the larger portion of it to the question of reconstruction, and urged upon it the duty of admitting the representatives of the southern States, whose credentials they have hitherto refused to accept. Although adhering to his past policy, and dodging the important issues presented to the people, and upon which they have decided at the last elections in such an unmistakable manner; the tone of the message was pacific and conciliatory, and entirely devoid of that fierce malignity which has hitherto characterized his conduct and speeches. While presenting no arguments which have not already been considered by Congress and the people, this message expressed such an ardent desire for an amicable adjustment of the difference between the co-ordinate departments of the government, and a restoration of harmony between the North and South, that it was received as an overture for reconciliation, and produced a marked effect upon the opposition members. Believing the President to be in the confidence, and the champion of the southern people, and that this appeal was designed to pave the way for their return to "fraternal relations" and "an obliteration of past differences" under the requirements of Congress; Ben. Wade—than whom there is none more radical—declared in the Senate "that if the southern States passed the Constitutional Amendment he should consider himself bound to vote for the admission of their representatives without any additional guarantee," and it was believed that in this policy a sufficient number would concur to secure the admission of the southern members, and make the second grand step toward the re-establishment of national unity and harmony. In this juncture the action of the southern Legislatures upon the Constitutional Amendment, which had been submitted by Congress, has been waited for with the most intense anxiety. Their answer has come. They have been rejected. They have spurned the olive branch, and cut down with relentless hands the bridge which the people of the loyal States had designed to bridge the gulf that separates the two sections. Unwilling to acknowledge even yet the inexorable logic of events; blind in their folly; rash and presumptuous in their impotent rage, they have made one more attempt to sever the thread that sustains the Damoclesian sword suspended over them, and rejected with haughty contempt the most magnanimous overtures ever offered by a victorious government to subjugated rebels. Aware of the impetuous, fiery disposition of the southern people, and their continued adherence to the doctrines of secession, we had thought that a regard for their own welfare and a knowledge of the utter folly of retaining a hostile attitude toward the government, would have led them to ratify these amendments and thus secure representation in the councils of the nation. There are still ten States remaining unrepresented and the chairs of fifty members of the House and twenty of the Senate, are vacant. The effect this action of the South will have upon the proceedings of

Congress, or the breach existing between it and the President, will be looked for with unusual interest.

### THE FINANCIAL PROBLEM—A SOLUTION OFFERED.

The national indebtedness and the best means of re-establishing its credit, are among the topics now attracting the special notice of the eastern press. Their suggestions are as multifarious as the writers, and as diverse as the policies of the parties to which they belong. One advocates an increase of tariff, another is in favor of free trade; some urge the increase of national banking capital, others the immediate retirement of the national currency and the issue of legal tenders in its stead; while Greeley, as usual, finds a panacea for all financial ills in the immediate resumption of specie payments. Each are sanguine that the country's salvation depends upon the adoption of their particular theory, and tremble lest any other should overwhelm it in irretrievable ruin. The resources of a country are her material wealth, and their proper development the wisest political economy. As to the best means of attaining this development and protecting her industrial pursuits, without establishing pernicious monopolies, opinions differ widely; and what is bane to one is antidote to another. But in all the suggestions made, we think they have overlooked one of the most important resources of the country, and that which will have the most salutary effect in restoring our finances to a sound basis. This is not surprising, when we consider that in the entire message to Congress the President failed to make the slightest allusion to those portions of the country which are pouring into the treasury the only means with which the obligations of the government can be redeemed; and ignored, by his silence, the existence of a class of people who have, since 1848, produced half as much gold and silver as the present amount of the national debt. While measures are urged which will cripple commerce or crush labor; which will entail disaster upon the capitalists of the country, or foster monopolies to the injury of the laboring classes, they have utterly neglected that which to us seems the surest, speediest and safest means of relief: the development of the gold-producing lands. To believe these writers, one would consider the country on the verge of bankruptcy, and surrounded with imminent financial perils. In this we cannot concur. It took England ten years to resume specie payments after the exhaustive wars with the first Napoleon; and to-day her indebtedness per head is fifty dollars more than ours; yet who doubts her solvency or stability? The debt of the United States is chiefly due to her own people; and while she has the ability to redeem her bonds on maturity, are an element of strength instead of weakness; for where the treasure is, there the heart is. Had the pockets of the southern people been lined with bonds instead of cotton, there never would have been heard at the gates of the capital the roar of rebel guns. We only need national economy and a diversion of capital from purely speculative channels to legitimate fields of operation. Our national debt on the first day of November, 1866, was \$2,551,310,055. Since gold was first discovered in California, the product of bullion in the United States has been \$1,100,000,000, and the great western mineral belts have been only prospected. This product has been chiefly the result of placer mining; the mere wash and crumbings from the great auriferous veins that grow richer as they descend. To develop these, capital, skilled labor and earnest intelligent effort is needed, and the recompense will be ample. Here are a million square miles of territory in which the precious metals abound, and scarce one lead in a thousand already discovered, is being developed, while there are three hundred millions of capital invested in national banks, and the clamor is for an extension of the limit. While capital so employed rarely ever yields a larger interest than twelve per cent., and is of little benefit to the country, it could, if prudently invested and controlled by practical men, be made to quadruple itself every year in the mining regions, and at the same time return a large revenue to the government. The placer mines of Montana have yielded largely to the hardy sons of toil who with pick and shovel delved into the gulches for the precious dust, but her true wealth still lies buried in the wall rock that encloses her numberless veins of quartz; and the same is the case with her sister Territories. That large sums of money have been invested in mining property, from which no returns have been received, is very true; but it is just as true that in nine cases out of ten the investments have been made recklessly by incompetent agents, or the money squandered on worthless machinery. When

moneyed men exercise as much judgment in their investments here as they do in the established branches of industry in the States, there will be few failures to record; these mountain regions will roll down a stream of gold into the national reservoir, and once more the musical clink of "slugs" will be the current notes of commerce; while freed from the hideous nightmare of bankruptcy, excited journalists may indulge again in the bright dreams of old.

COLORADO—CLAIM OWNERS ATTENTION.—The Colorado Times says: "It should be borne in mind by parties owning claims in Colorado, that by a law passed at the last session of the Legislature of that Territory, all mining claims which have been allowed to be unrepresented during the last three years, shall be forfeited, and subject to pre-emption by any other party that pleases to own them, and that no rights or ownership shall thenceforward exist in the original owner or absentees." This law goes into force on the first day of February, 1867. As there are many parties in Montana who hold claims in Colorado, they should take immediate action in this matter if they wish to retain their claims.

THE Colorado Journal has changed proprietors and name, and is now called the Colorado Times, with O. J. Goldrick, late of the Vedette, and H. Garbanate as editors. They have already made a decided improvement in the appearance of their paper; and the well-known business qualifications of the gentlemen who conduct it is a guarantee of its success. Democracy will have an able champion in this Black Hawk daily.

AREAS OF THE TERRITORIES.—The following are the areas of the Territories (and States) made from late surveys, reported to the Surveyor-General:

State or Territory	Area (Square Miles)
Kansas	52,048,520
Nebraska	48,638,800
Dakota	133,985,080
Montana	92,016,480
Colorado	66,973,200
New Mexico	77,569,640
Indian Territory	44,154,240
California	101,217,200
Oregon	60,958,720
Nevada	71,727,740
Arizona	72,906,304
Utah	166,350,630
Idaho	58,196,480
Washington	44,796,160

United States, exclusive of water surface, 1,923,301,032 square acres, or 3,002,013 square miles.

INTERESTING TO TURKEMEN.—The fastest time on record at all distances, is as follows:

1 mile, pacing, Footman	2:17
1 mile, trotting, Dexter	2:18
2 miles, trotting, Flora Temple	4:50
3 miles, trotting, Hutchman	7:32
4 miles, running, Lexington	7:19
16 miles, trotting, Prince	20:00
30 miles, trotting, Friess	39:35
100 miles, trotting, Conqueror	8:55:63
100 miles, double, Master Burke & Robin	10:17:22

### PEN AND SCISSORS.

Idaho. The Odd Fellows had a grand ball at the City Hotel on the 20th ult. The Indians are again rampant, having committed several depredations recently. The local of the Zionists giving a little advice to a certain lady in town, appears to have touched a tender point, and every other woman in town took it all to herself. He was the recipient of a flood of elegant remonstrances from misses, maids and grandmas, and feels that he has made a decided hit, for once. Colonel Stevenson of Boise county made an assault on H. P. Stevenson of Nez Perces county in the Council room, after the adjournment. No damage done, except a mutilated coat. The election of officers in Idaho Lodge, No. 35, resulted as follows: P. E. Edmondson, W. M.; C. S. Innis, S. M.; J. B. Curdick, J. W.; A. P. Turner, S.; M. Lazarus, T. The new hall was dedicated on the 27th ult. James O'Meara is lecturing on the Fenian question. The ore of the Rising Star lode, by roasting, has yielded as high as \$500 to the ton. The Owyhee shipped \$285,000 in bullion in September.

General Items. Brigham Young is luxuriating in the honeymoon of his forty-fifth bride, a beautiful Danish girl of seventeen. He has just lost his twenty-fourth wife, who was buried without any ceremony, or even a notice of her death. New York offers to sell the lower end of the Park to the Government for \$1,000,000, as a site for a postoffice. During the war 45,000 Federal prisoners died in the South, and 26,435 Confederate prisoners died in the North. The suspension bridge over the Ohio river at Cincinnati, which is 2,252 feet long, was opened to pedestrians on Saturday, Dec. 1st, with appropriate ceremonies. It is the longest single span bridge in the world, costing \$3,000,000. The railway tracks are laid over its span from center to center of towers, 1,657 feet. Prussia's new flag is to be tri-color—black, white and orange. The House of Commons consists of 650 members, elected by 1,269,173 voters, out of a population of 29,321,288. In the British Empire there are 200,000 of people and 4,000,997 square miles. In a recent address General Howard stated that the Freedmen's Bureau is now educating 150,000 freedmen and their children. Washington College, Virginia, of which General Lee is President, has this year three hundred students, of whom "three" are from Boston. The hands of a printer travels nine miles in setting up 25,000 letters. Lieutenant Maury, late rebel naval commander, is in London. President Johnson has placed his youngest son at the Jesuit's College, Georgetown, D. C. to be educated. A woman in Wheeling, Va., cut the throat of her new born

child the other day. It is becoming absolutely dangerous in many parts of the country for children to have parents. A new style of bonnet has made its appearance in Paris. It is a twine string with a diamond set in the top. Aaron Jones has closed articles to fight McCool for the championship for \$5,000, in December, in St. Louis. The Illinois Central Railroad Company have leased for thirty years the Chicago Burlington and Quincy Railroad. The aggregate of national bank currency now in circulation is \$296,952,352. The amount of gold and coin certificates now in the treasury is \$95,000,000. The last great telegraphic feat is the ordering of wheat by a London house, of one in San Francisco, and the receipt by the former on the same day, of the intelligence that the order had been filled. Russia has broken off all relations with the Pope. Assassination is an amusement among the Mormons. To drink pure water you must seek the fountain head. The gentleman whose lips pressed a lady's snowy brow, did not catch cold. An infant, sixty years old, in Wiscasset, Me., is cutting a new set of teeth. The price of poultry is declining in Boston. It ought to come down here. The average annual cost of teaching each pupil in the New York schools is \$19.67. John Morrissey is reported to have given \$7,000 to a church in New York. The Japanese imagine that after death bad men become low brutes. They have a horse insurance company in Louisville, Kentucky. The cases of "found drowned" in New York number 160 for the last six months.

### Important Results from a New Mining Process.

For some years past many of the mines in this as well as neighboring States, which for years had afforded a rich and regular yield, have failed to produce like results, and in consequence their stock fell in market. The direct cause of this failure was attributed, and still is by many, to deterioration in the rock. This was the cause of the failure of the workings of the Mariposa estate, which involved a large outlay and damage, to a greater extent than can be estimated in dollars and cents, the mining interests of the Pacific coast. For several years past, experiments have been made in an entirely new mode of extracting the precious metals, and six or seven years' arduous labor have brought the same to a perfection that will, we think, lend great zeal to mining operations. It has been well known that the rock of the Josephine and Pine Tree mines of the Mariposa estate did not yield under the well crushing process and the workings of ordinary quartz mills, over \$60 per ton, although the assays thereof gave much larger results. A few months since it was determined to experiment in the new process, the inventor of which had persisted in maintaining its superiority. Accordingly the necessary works were erected and the same duly tested. The result of working fifteen tons of the ordinary rock of the Pine Tree mine—quartz full of the finest gold, of which tons and tons have been floated off into the Merced river, from the inability of the process in vogue to retain—was submitted to the new method. Under ordinary workings the yield was scarcely over an average of \$6. The result of the present new system made a return of \$32 per ton on the first week's run, which is an excess of over \$20 per ton in favor of the new process. This result is of great importance, as it may lead to an entire revolution in quartz working, and as such deserves the calm consideration of every one interested in the future prosperity of our State. The "proof of the pudding is the eating," we all know. The result of the workings of the tailings of the Pine Tree, Josephine, Princeton, and other mines of the Mariposa estate, fully demonstrated that the system of wet crushing, amalgamating in the batteries, etc., the usual method of quartz crushing, was a losing business; to make the mines pay, some other system or method of working the quartz was requisite. After much solicitation the new method was assayed, with the result as stated. As it has demonstrated itself to be of great value—perfect in its workings—so much so that an assay of the tailings exhibits but a trace of metallic matter, we will endeavor to explain the process. The rock is dry crushed, and afterwards submitted to the action of balls in a drum to insure full pulverization, it being desirable that the powder should approach as near wheat flour as possible. A charge of this powdered quartz is taken, placed in an air tight cylinder, the interior of which is furnished with a worm of pipes to convey superheated steam therein. This fine pulverized ore is then submitted to the superheated steam for about twenty minutes. The superheated steam is then cut off, and a certain quantity of quicksilver put in and common steam turned on, and the whole seethed or boiled for an allotted period. On the top of this cylinder a water bath is placed, and as the mercurial vapors rise they become condensed. Thus the system of thoroughly impregnating the crushed rock with quicksilver is carried out with efficiency. After thus cooking the cylinder door is opened, and the whole mass discharged upon a novel shaking table, which is worked by the power of the steam employed in the previous operation. This table is built of copper, on a wooden frame with rollers and rifles of peculiar construction, which, when it is in motion, give the water, amalgam and dust the same action of the ocean surf—an undertow. As the mass descends the amalgam from its metallic weight gradually clears itself from the quartz dust, and the result is that it is all collected in the troughs of the rifles, containing every particle of metal, be it precious or base, the quartz holds. The mode of applying superheated steam to the crushed rock desuperheats it, freeing the metals, and all that is to retort the amalgam to obtain the result of the yield. We learn that this process is not as expensive as the ordinary method of working, and the public will look with considerable interest to the future experiments with the

same. It is to be hoped that it will prove profitable, as by its means there are a host of at present unproductive quartz lodes which will afford remunerative results from such working. By this process all the immense piles of tailings which environ almost every mill in the State can be profitably worked. Millions of dollars now lie buried in these sand-heaps.—Alta California.

THE CROWN OF MEXICO.—It may be forgotten that a member of the Bonaparte family was offered forty years ago the crown of Mexico. The story is told by the Emperor himself in his sketch of Joseph, eldest brother of the first Napoleon. "Whilst Joseph was living as a philosopher, on the banks of the Delaware, thinking of nothing but doing good to those around him, he received a proposal which surprised and touched him. A deputation of Mexicans came to him to place at his disposal the crown of Mexico. The ex-King of Naples and Spain answered the deputation nearly in these terms: 'I have borne two crowns, and I would not take a single step for a third. Nothing can be more flattering to me than to see men who, when I was in Madrid, refused to recognize my authority, come now in my exile to ask me to put myself at their head. But I do not believe the throne you wish to raise up can make you happy; and every day I spend on the hospitable soil of the United States proves to me more and more the excellence of republican institutions for America. Preserve them, then, as the precious gift of Providence. Put an end to your intestine quarrels; initiate the United States, and look out among your fellow citizens for some one more capable than I am to play the great part of Washington.'"—From *Chapters de Napoleon III.*, vol. 2.

ANNA DICKINSON.—A Boston correspondent of the Louisville Courier went to hear Anna Dickinson the other day, and his orthodox southern ideas became somewhat demoralized. He says:

Anna is a sprightly little cuss, and has a voice that would charm the birds off the bushes. Taken as a whole, she was exceedingly nice and pretty. I don't care if she did get Fred Douglas, she is pretty, by jingo! She hurled her rejected boulder at the audience as gracefully as David slung his little smooth stone at the giant. She was severe on President Johnson, comparing him to all the tyrants of any standing in ancient or modern history. She told about Dick Taylor making the Union men dig their own graves, and about Bird Burnham's shooting the two little Union girls. She brought up that God-send for the Radicals, the New Orleans riots; also the Memphis massacre of school marmas. In fact, she lied like the devil. I left, wondering how a human female could be so beautiful and bewitching, and tell such

SEVEN TIMES MARRIED.—WHICH IS WHICH?—A curious suit, known as the Slade baronetcy case, is soon to be tried in England. Lady Slade at the time of her marriage with the late Sir Frederick Slade, Q. C., supposed herself to be a widow, her former husband having deserted her and a report was circulated that he was dead. After the birth of Sir Frederick's first son, the first husband was heard of, but there was no absolute certainty whether he was alive or dead. Accordingly, before the second child was born, in order that there might be no doubt about his legitimacy, the parents were married again. The same ceremony was repeated before the birth of each child in succession, and as there are seven of them, each claims the title and estates. Witnesses are summoned from various parts of the world.

A. M. MONROE imparts to the Atchison Free Press the fact that the oldest man in the State resides in that town. His name is Thomas Reynolds and his age is one hundred and six years. He was born in Ross Common, Elphin Parish, Ireland, Dec. 21, 1760. Was married when eighty years of age; has a young wife and family whom he now supports by his daily labor. Never was sick a day in his life, except when he had his leg broken by falling earth on the Atchison levee, in 1864. Never took any medicine. Served thirteen years in the British army, six of which were under the Duke of Wellington. Was present in the memorable battle of Waterloo, where he was wounded in the hand, the mark of which he still carries. He is active and sprightly, and would readily pass for a man not over seventy years of age.

MINING IN ARIZONA.—A company of about fifty left Prescott some time ago for the famous White Mountains, where the Indians used gold bullets. There were a number of practical miners in the party. They have returned, and report that the gold of that land is not good. The country on the Verde river and southeasterly, extending to the Rio Grande and Fort West, is a fine agricultural region, but they think it not gold bearing. This and the Jack Swelling expedition discourage the idea that the supposed extensive placer mines in and around the White Mountains are a reality.

KEEP UP THE FIRES.—Did you ever notice the frost on your window panes? It is the congealed vapors of your once warm room; and if you warm the room, the frost will disappear, and you can see out into the world again. Let your heart grow cold, and the frost of distrust and bitterness will gather around it, blinding the soul and shutting out the light; but kindle up the fires of love, and the windows of the soul will become as clear as crystal, transmitting the light of Heaven, and giving you glimpses of Paradise.

G. W. HARRIS (Sut Lovegood) was elected superintendent of the Wills Valley Railroad, at Chattanooga, lately.