The Montana Post.

D. W. TILTON, BEN. R. DITTES

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PEN AND SCISSORS.

California.

Alice Kingsbury has obtained a divorce from her husband and the custody of her children. The degree was granted by the District court of Placerville, Cal. ....The bank of California has forwarded to the East all the money thus far raised on the Pacific Coast for the relief of the destitute sufiering in the South. The sum thus far sent East by them amounts to $56,800....A. S. Smith of the Marysville *Appeal*, is a candidate for State Printer, before the California Union Convention....The Odd Fellows' Library, San Francisco, contains over 1,000 volumes; valued at $35,735....The San Francisco *Call* says: George E. Whitney, a member of the bar of San Francisco, has, we understand, been appointed Commissioner of Bankruptcy for the State of California....The Grass Valley, (Cal.) *National* is informed that Matt. Tracy, of that place, is willing to fight any man in California, of his weight and height, for $1,000 to $2,000; or any man in the world, of his weight and height, for from $1,000 to $5,000. His weight is 155 lbs.; height, 6 feet 3 inches....The *Alta* says: Dr. Benjamin Ober, a resident of California since 1849, died suddenly last night at his residence of an affection of the heart. The Doctor had been out on business, came in about 10 o'clock, scarcely complained, and died in a few minutes. He had been suffering from time to time with heart disease, and, though apparently in excellent health, was thus suddenly taken off. He has been a resident of San Francisco since 1851, and has been during that period a homeopathic physician. The Doctor was a noble hearted man, full of the milk of human kindness, generous to a fault, and a good friend to such poor people as came under his notice. He was a native of New Hampshire, and was sixty-one years of age. ....In Sacramento, last Wednesday, Samuel Johnson and Thomas Harmon were sentenced in the District court to ten years imprisonment in the State Prison, the former for felony and the latter for burglary. Both pleaded guilty to the charges preferred against them.

Nevada.

The *Trespass* says: On the 4th inst., at 4 A. M., whilst the stage was on the opposite side of the Colorado river from Hardyville Landing, Arizona, a sad accident happened, as follows: The driver halloed for the ferryman, without success, and called out to those inside to discharge a pistol to attract attention. Mr. C. L. Strong took his pistol, to cock it, and finding the hammer difficult to raise, pulled it back with force, but not catching, the charge went off, and passing through an inch board, killed the driver, Mr. James Tuttle. An inquest was held and Mr. Strong exonerated without the slightest shadow of blame. ....Mrs. Gov. McCormick, of Arizona, died suddenly on the last day of April, after, as it was supposed by the attendant physician, that all danger was passed. ....We learn that two of Haskell's patent smelting furnaces will be erected at Peavine, in a few weeks, for the reduction of copper ore....Papers incorporating the Nevada Orphan Asylum have been filed in the County Clerk's office. Capital stock, $10,000. Time of incorporation, 57 years; stock not divided, but held in common. Trustees for one year, Frederick Grate, Xavier Schaner, Elizabeth Russell....We learn from Dr. McMeans that all of the small-pox patients at the pest-house are convalescing and able to be up and around the premises. No new cases have been reported for several days....The *Reveille* tells of the working of two and a half tons of high grade ore from the Westfield ledge in the Reveille district. The first lot of 3,000 pounds yielded at the rate of $600 and the second lot of one ton at the rate of $550 per ton....The Reese River *Reveille* thinks John Conness is the best man in California for the United States Senatorship....The Gold Hill *News* says:—General Safford, the newly appointed U. S. Surveyor of this State, intends making Virginia City his headquarters. He is now arranging affairs to this end, and it will not be a long time until his office will be in full operation... J. C. Swain has received the appointment of Assistant Assessor of Internal Revenue for the Third Division of Nevada.

Utah.

The *Vedette* of the 21st says: The proprietor of this establishment, P. L. Shoaff, Esq., with his wife and daughter, left us yesterday for a trip to the land of the free. He will visit the South, the East, the North and the West, before he returns to Utah....A large Government train left Camp Douglas yesterday for Fort Laramie, Sol. Pearsall, wagonmaster, commanding. An escort of about 40 soldiers, under Lieut. Gill, accompanied it....Madam Rumor had it that Orson Hyde and Amasa Lyman, both high up in the Church, have been tooting their horns south of here against polygamy and special revelations, of late. She also asserts that a gentleman, B. Young, Esq., known both to fortune and to fame, visited the southern settlements of Utah lately and shut off their wind. The *modus operandi* has not been explained to us, so we will just say nothing about it at present....Large numbers of the residents of Utah, north and south of this city, who have dwelt in the pleasant valleys of Zion for years, are emigrating to America. Quite a number of families started yesterday with the government train that left Camp Douglas. We are informed that 130 wagons loaded with Josephites go out from hence. They have soured on Zion....Heller, the Magician, is astounding the Saints with his *deeds diabolique* at the theater....In the absence of Mr. Shoaff, Mr. Daniel McLaughlin is editing the *Vedette*.

A CHANGE FOR THE BETTER.

The Rochester (N. Y.) *Express*, of April 9th, contains a letter on Indian affairs from a Montanian, who will be remembered by the readers of the POST as our correspondent "I," of Deer Lodge. Mr. Irwin, after giving a truthful statement of Indian depredations throughout the western country, makes the following suggestions:

Does Mr. Secretary Seward mean us when he vauntingly asserts that the citizens of the American Republic will be protected wherever they may be? Are those of us who desire the development of these argentiferous and auriferous regions, to furnish fresh victims to the Indian policy of the government? And are those of us who are living in safety to stand dispassionately by and view the horrible scene? It does appear to me "the powers that be" ought to wake up to the fact that this country must be protected, for the reason, if no other, that its products of gold and silver are absolutely necessary to the future cancelling of the national debt. Philanthropy has been extended long enough for the benefit of the poor red man; let it now turn to the suffering women and children of the plains. If a spark of humanity still lingers in their bosoms they should raise a hue and cry that would compel the active attention of the whole nation. The citizens of this Territory have been much disgusted by the egotistical boast of Commissioner Cooley, that the year 1866 would be memorable for the number of its Indian treaties." Such glaring incapacity for the position he holds should, for the welfare of the people at large, be punished by immediate dismissal. The Senate should confirm any nomination in his stead, be he Radical or be he Rebel. All of the residents of this country agree that there is but one policy to remedy this evil. That is, to prevent agents and traders from furnishing supplies of any kind whatever to the savage, organize an effective force of several thousand men, select them from the mountains and western settlements, and then order all bucks, squaws and papooses killed, whenever found, until the red devils sue for peace on bended knees. By so doing a permanent and lasting peace will be secured, and future guarantee be had in abundance. I well know you of the States revolt at the idea of killing the squaws and their off-spring. It is a frequent occurrence for these gentle fair ones to join their lieges in a massacre. They certainly encourage them to an extent entirely unprecedented in the annals of previous barbaric warfare. Reflect for a moment on the number of women and children sacrificed yearly to the present policy, and then decide. Let the Government organize the mountain men, and I assure you ere the winter's snows again cap our highest hills, "the vexed Indian question" will have reached a thorough solution.

This communication called out an editorial from the *Express*, sounding strangely enough coming from the Empire State. We are gratified to say that throughout the States there has latterly taken place a revolution of feeling on this Indian question, and if the influence of the respectable press of the country has any effect upon the people, the legislators and the departments, we may believe that we of the West have had the last feather of official folly, in regard to the management of the red skins, laid upon our backs. The impending Indian war, the depredations already committed, and the military preparations have made this a leading topic with the eastern journals, and as an index of their general tone, we copy the article of the *Express* entire:

We publish to-day a letter from one of the early settlers of Montana, in which the writer recommends the utter extermination of the Indians—the killing of men, women and children. This is the general sentiment of the people of Montana, Colorado, Arizona, Minnesota, New Mexico, and would probably carry a majority vote in Kansas, Nebraska and Iowa. This is not now the feeling of the people in the older States, who neither know the Indian nor care what policy is adopted in regard to that race—but it has been the theory and the practice of every State in the Union. There have been more Indian massacres in Massachusetts than in Montana. Plymouth was for years a fortification—a stockade around the town, guns mounted on the hill, and muskets carried to meeting every Sunday by men, all of whom had been drilled in companies the day before. The barbarities and brutalities of the Indians have left blood spots all over New England. In Massachusetts, and by a most terrible example in Connecticut, the same retaliation was visited upon the Indians which is advocated by our Montana correspondent—men, women and children were killed. We are the descendants of the Puritans who did these things, and we are extremely sensitive because the settlers in Montana wish to deal with the barbarians who are destroying them now in the same way that our ancestors dealt with the red men of the seventeenth century.

Mr. Palfry, in his history of New England, sums up the treachery and brutishness of the Indian character as it was exhibited two hundred years ago, in very much the same manner as you would hear it given to-day on the border of Kansas or Minnesota—and Mr. Palfrey is an impartial historian and a true philanthropist.

It is not exactly fair, then, to call western men blood-thirsty, because they feel as other white men have felt who have had to deal with the American savage.

That the policy of the Government is wrong is generally admitted. The Interior Department is to some extent responsible for the massacres which occurred in Minnesota in August, 1862, in Kansas and along the Platte in August, 1864, and which we now get by telegraph almost daily from Montana, Dacotah, Arizona, or some of the new Territories.

Indian Agents, appointed by the Interior Department, sell the Indians arms, powder and whiskey, and manage to rob them of nearly all their annuities. The contractors who get the big jobs in Washington for supplying beads and blankets, paints and trinkets, get rich with amazing rapidity and ease. The high officials in the Department of the Interior rarely retire in abject poverty. This was so during long years under Democratic administrations, and it has been no better under either Lincoln or Johnson. The public never hear of these matters except when some contractor refuses to "divide." We had such a case last year, but it was speedily hushed up.

The stream is polluted at the fountain, and we do not expect it to flow remarkably clear when it reaches the border settlements.

The poor sufferers in Montana will have to protect themselves as best they can with their own strong arms.

The only remedy which is available is to transfer the whole superintendence of Indian Affairs to the War Department. There will be less stealing then and more vigor, which is perhaps all we can hope at present. Meantime three hundred thousand Indians will ravage the plains at will.

Condition of Mexico.

The San Francisco *Bulletin* comments as follows upon this almost inexhaustible subject:

Now that the Empire has failed, after an exhaustive struggle, it is interesting to note the resources left to the country. Senor Lerdo de Tejado, a writer of considerable note and a local historian, residing at Vera Cruz, furnishes the following data: Mexican territory comprises an area of 766,482 square miles. The value of real estate is put down at $1,335,000,000, or $163.50 for each one of the population. The population, according to this authority, is now 8,250,000. By the act of secularization of 1859 (Juarez's decree) lands to the value of $300,000,000, held by the Church, were passed over to the State. It is a singular fact that, while this decree was one of the chief causes of opposition to Juarez, the Imperial party, which represented the Church, never annulled the decree, although this was the first thing demanded of Maximilian by his supporters. This $300,000,000 is so much added to the real wealth of Mexico, since it has become taxable, and held like all property for the payment of just debts. The product of the silver mines from the time of the Spanish conquest to 1803, was estimated by Humboldt at $4,000,000,000. From 1826 to 1856, the coinage amounted to $478,392,014; and the present annual yield of silver is estimated at $23,000,000. Senor Tejado figures up the amount of Maximilian's French and other loans, putting down the total at $152,000,000. The further sum of $150,000,000 represents the expenses of French occupation. This debt of $300,000,000 is looked upon by the Republican Government as wholly unauthorized and illegal, it being created by an irresponsible and bogus government, for which the rightful and constitutional government is in no way responsible. The Republicans claim that the attempt to set up an Empire was a rebellion, which having now utterly failed, all its acts are to be repudiated. This debt, therefore, is viewed much in the same light as the United States now view the Confederate debt. The one rests upon just about as good a legal and equitable foundation as the other. No doubt attempts will be made hereafter to enforce the payment of the rebel debt of Mexico, and some interesting questions may invite discussion. But the Republicans of Mexico will find a strong precedent in the utter repudiation of the Confederate loan, which is hardly worth more than the rag gatherers are giving for waste paper stock. Both of these rebellions having failed, the equity which destroys the financial credit of one can hardly save that of the other.

AN English book on the South, called "After the War," by Whitelaw Reid, is praised by the Westminster *Review*. Mr. Reid gives the following as the purport of some remarks made in his hearing by ex-Confederate General Yorke: "You don't know what you are talking about," he exclaimed, impetuously, to some one who was haranguing against the cruelty of the Government. "I tell you, sir, you have got and I have got the most merciful government in the world. What's the use of trying to disguise the fact? We attempted to destroy the government and failed; any other would have hung me for my share in the matter, and it would have had a perfect right to do it. I consider myself a standing proof of the mercy of my government. It confiscated my property while I was gone fighting against it. I don't complain; it did perfectly right. Since then I have got my property back, a thing I had no right to expect, and I am very grateful for it. I only want a chance to prove my gratitude. If we get into a war about the Mexican business, I'll try and show the government how I appreciate its generosity to me." Some one said the war wasn't over yet. "Isn't it?" said the General. "Well, maybe you haven't had enough of it; but I tell you the men that did the fighting have. What's more, they are satisfied to quit and take things as they can get them. More still, I don't know of anybody that isn't satisfied to quit except the stay-at-home sneaks that never yet made a beginning. You are very full of fight now, all of a sudden, when it isn't needed; why didn't you show some of it when we wanted you in the trenches at Richmond?"

VALUE OF EASTERN CITIES.—In Philadelphia, in 1855, the assessed value of real estate was $132,000,000; in 1865, $156,000,000; in 1867, $160,350,000. In Boston, in 1855, the assessed value of real estate was $136,260,000; in 1865, $201,600,000; in 1867, $225,750,000. In New York, in 1855, the assessed value of real estate was $337,000,000; in 1865, $427,400,000; in 1867, $479,000,000. The assessment of real estate has increased in New York in twelve years $142,000,000; in Boston, $89,500,000; in Philadelphia, $28,350,000.

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