

THE MONTANA POST.

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

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Our correspondents throughout the Territory will oblige by conforming to the following rules: Limit all communications to a half column. Write only on one side of the paper, plainly and concisely. Mining news should be written separately from other news; brief, statistical and reliable. Write only what will be of public interest. Avoid personalities. Give date and address. The name of the writer must accompany each letter. An adherence to these rules will enable us to give early insertion to communications; a departure from them will account for non-appearance in nearly every instance.

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SET BACK A YEAR.

We are not of those whose sympathies are with the aborigines in the irrepressible conflict of races, consequent upon the settlement of the Western Territories. Believing that barbarism and the nomadic tribes of Indians must eventually fade away before the onward progressive strides of the Anglo-Saxon; that all history proves their hostility, treachery, and incapability of appreciating and accepting a life of labor; that the pursuits, character and accomplishments consequent to the settlement of these regions by the whites, are more in accordance with the requirements of the age than its occupation by the savages; that it is an essential to national financial safety, and the preparation of these wilds for the manifest expansion of the rapidly increasing population of the Middle States, that these frontier settlements should have protection of life and property, even to the extermination of the Indian race, and, that the sooner the very few fanatical, although perhaps conscientious, sticklers for the "rights" of the savages, among us, and the government at Washington get over their nightmare hallucinations about the impositions the frontiersmen practice on the Indians, and extend the strong hand of protection, not imaginary, but real, over these vast mineral and agricultural lands to the west of the Missouri, the better it will be for all. It is not presumptuous to assert, what is a conceded fact by practical miners and capitalists, that Montana presents the most promising field for mining operations of any country on the continent. Her quartz lodes are unnumbered, rich, and comparatively free from those difficulties of reducing which have impeded the development of some other Territories. She ranks now, with a population of 28,000, the second bullion producing commonwealth, and the first as a Territory. Her placer mines last year were not generally as productive as they otherwise would have been, from a scarcity of water, yet every indication favored the development of quartz, and an immense Eastern capital was tending here for investment. Numerous companies were formed, and everything promised a large emigration and unprecedented development. If the government is in easy circumstances to-day, it may not be so in a few years, and the vigorous prosecution of the mining interests is an essential to the ultimate resumption of specie payments and the contraction of an inflated paper currency subject to even repudiation in the course of political events. Yet we find a few tribes of lazy, thieving savages banded together, slaughtering troops, settlers and emigrants, and the tide of men and money that would have otherwise rolled across the plains this year is checked, and emigration is restricted to the uncertain season of water communication. Now they talk of peace councils, proposed by our military officers, and probably to be accepted by the savages. They consider it will be all right, and the Indians having nothing to lose by an arrangement which will furnish them

with additional opportunities for destruction in the future, and shield them from punishment for the past, have all to gain by the treaty. The fallacy of this policy will be apparent in the future if it is not now. When we should have, and probably would have had an emigration of 15,000 to 20,000 and forty to fifty mills, the signs of the times do not indicate an actual increase of more than 4,000 this summer. If we receive 2,000 by river, in excess of those who go to the States, and another 2,000 from Salmon river, and the overland routes from East and West, it will come fully up to the number we may reasonably anticipate. How many companies have hesitated to forward machinery and money, in view of the unpromising condition of affairs, we have no means of ascertaining, but of thirty-five mills, known to have been ordered in the East, we will see how many arrive. There is one consideration connected with this that gives the legendary lining to the dark cloud. Emigrants do not generally meet with much success the first season, and winter finds them unprepared. It leaves a great many "dead broke" men in every camp. The old residents are more provident, and as there will be a demand for all the labor in the Territory in placer mining, at good wages, there will be no distress next winter, while the limited amount of goods being received, will tend to keep prices steady, and merchants will have a better margin than the very meagre and discouraging one of last year.

A SUMMER TOUR.

It is the pride of Montana that with its rich resources of minerals and agriculture it abounds in scenery of delightful picturesqueness, and unexcelled grandeur. The great main ranges and spurs of the Rocky Mountains, where but a few miles apart are the head springs of two rivers that flow to different oceans, encircling the globe, have, nestled in their recesses, and following out to the plains, valleys of Arcadian beauty, luxuriant with herbage and pleasing to the eye as the vales of Casumere. But if the evidence of those *avant gardes*, the hunter and prospector is admissible, and it is corroborative from a score of different persons, going thither at different seasons, from different places, by different routes, and without subsequent collusion, there exists on the extreme southern borders of the Territory and extending southward, a region of country surpassing, in natural curiosities any other on the continent, and offering a most tempting field for scientific exploration, as well as the most enticing for tourists, artists, sensation hunters and miners, of any region lying within the confines of the Republic. A *terra incognita*, whose description remains to be written, abounding in the wonderful, the grand and the golden. The stories related of it seem fabulous, but the testimony is cumulative and worthy of credence. Where the West Fork of the Madison springs, and thence south-easterly to the Yellowstone Lake lies this wonderful region. In one place is described huge rocky precipices, with petrified forests buried in them, with the trunks and limbs distinctly defined, standing as they grew. Another section is an active volcanic region, covered with lava, and the fissures emitting heat and smoke, the bed of lava so hot that it is impossible to cross it. An immense geyser throws a huge column of water to a height of 50 feet, not steadily, but in successive breathings as it were, while innumerable smaller fountains all around, spurt up their tiny jets. This water, seething hot, collects, and dashing over a lofty precipice, forms the head waters of the Madison. For many miles below, the water retains this heat. In another place, through a narrow canyon a mile or two in length, where the sun scarcely ever shines, is a road, straight as an arrow, cut through a forest of dense timber, with the stumps, chips and logs remaining to mark the probable route of the Pathfinder. The water in various places, is covered with a substance which is described as resembling tar, a suggestion descriptive to oil hunters. There are immense gravel bars, said to prospect richly in gold, and the statement that good prospects can be found high up the mountain sides, sounds not improbable to one who has visited the Yellowstone lower down, and found wash boulders and gravel on the mountain tops, and marked where the waters had formerly been confined in lakes, and successively burst through one range after another until it found an outlet below the range beyond Bozeman City. These things are but a vague outline of the graphic and elaborately drawn word pictures we have heard narrated of the country. A party is now forming, purposing in a few weeks to visit this region, but a few days ride from Virginia,

on a trip of exploration and pleasure. It will be sufficiently large to ensure safety from Indians; accompanied by guides, and will consist of gentlemen fully competent to portray with pen and pencil the beauties, wonders and solid realities of this terrestrial arena.

ANOTHER WAR CLOUD.

The intermittent Fenian fever has again broken out, and latest advices are big with rumors of rifles and cannon en route for the border, and men by the hundred thousand concentrating to deal destruction upon the Canadas. The sympathies of the American people are on the side of the Irish; the Government opposes the movement only when their infraction of international laws jeopardizes the peace of the Republic, the great mass of Irish-Americans would no doubt rally to the support of the green flag with muscle and money; but with all these there is nothing in the horizon at present that promises even a temporary success of the Irish, either in Canada or Ireland. England is alarmed. Her conduct at the London Conference and the leniency to Fenian convicts indicates that; yet her alarm, instead of palsying her arm, has strengthened it, and placed the threatened quarters under more powerful restraint. Canada is protected by English troops and the Canadian volunteers. Ireland is under the check of immense garrisons and the surveillance of thirteen thousand military police, under Sir Hugh Rose, who demonstrated his ferociousness in India by blowing Sepoys from the cannon's mouth. The time for the redemption of Ireland has not yet come. Her bravest and wisest sons regret these spasmodic and fruitless risings, as binding the chains of tyranny closer about the hearts of the people, and rendering the final attempt less promising of success. While England remains at peace, she can hold the Canadas and Ireland. When she becomes involved in foreign war, domestic insurrection and Irish-American support may redeem the Emerald Isle from British rule, and give the Irish an opportunity to try their hand on a Republic. We think the Montana Convention displayed sound judgment in looking forward ten years for success, and remonstrating against the over sanguine anticipations of their eastern brothers in making their "calm, earnest support not that of a day, but that of a life time."

NONPLUSSÉD.

The *Gazette* takes violent offense at the recently published speech of Col. Sanders, and "notices" it to the extent of one-fourth of all the reading matter in the issue of June 1st. It is very much annoyed at the impudence of a private citizen of the Union party, paying his own expenses to and from Washington City, and accomplishing, by a plain statement of facts to the Territorial Committee, two members of which were Democrats, what the Democratic Delegate had partly attempted, but backed out of as too laborious a task, and left his "battering" to be pigeon-holed. If it is such a "detrimental" measure, how can you excuse Davis, Hendricks, Johnson and all the other Democratic Senators for voting for the bill, for it passed unanimously, and how can you forgive the great vetoist, A. J., who so imprudently signed away the rights of his pet lambs in Montana, and in whose "recent acts Col. Sanders found much to commend?" Truly, the *Gazette* is in a deplorable condition. The conscientious Democrats of Montana, quietly acquiescing in what is simply the triumph of Law over Disorder; those incomprehensible Southerners, of the ancient Democracy, accepting negro suffrage and the Military Bill with scarce a murmur, yet the *Gazette* stands committed against all, and is now in such an uncomfortable dilemma that in the entire article referred to it fails to make a single point that is not contradicted in itself. It is long-winded; in fact, altogether windy, and the final clause sounds so much like "Behold, I will give Thee all these if Thou wilt serve me," that its paternity is a question of doubt, lying between the Editor and that nameless individual inseparably connected with a printing office and hoofs, horns and tail.

THE DEATH OF LIVINGSTONE.

The murder of Dr. Livingstone, the traveller, of whose fate there have been various conflicting reports, appears to be confirmed past all hopes of its inaccuracy. Dispatches read before the British Royal Geographical Society contain details of the massacre, reported by some of his servants who escaped. The last dispatches received from him were dated May 18, 1866. He had been exploring the hitherto unknown region about Lake Nyassi, and was travelling towards the northwest, with an escort of guards and

porters, or Jobanna men, reduced by desertions and death to twenty in number, when they were attacked by a band of Zulus and Nyassi natives. The Doctor fired on them as they advanced, killing two of their number, and was reloading when three of them sprang upon him from behind, and a single blow with an axe nearly severed the head from the body, and killed him instantly. His musketeers fought bravely until he was killed, when they became terror-stricken and fled. They found refuge in the dense forest until night, when, returning stealthily, they found his body, with those of four of his guards and the Zulus they had killed. The porters, who had been in the rear and fled into the wood when the firing commenced, with Ali Moosa, buried the dead, and after a perilous journey, reached Kampanda in a fortnight. Here they fell in with an Arab caravan journeying to Keetwa, and travelling with them were again attacked and dispersed by Zulus, but succeeded in reaching the coast, and arrived at Zanzibar, December 6. The shipping in the harbor displayed their bunting at half-mast in respect for the dead, as was also done at the various consulates. Dr. Seward says: "The date of Livingstone's death is left to conjecture;" but infers from the information of the natives that the encounter took place in September.

THE MISSIONARY FIELD.

The assertion that the Union party would keep missionaries in the South until the people are converted from the idolatry of secession, appears to be in the way to be practically carried out. Senator Wilson and Judge Kelley began the work, and with the exception of the riot in Mobile, were well received, and attentively listened to, by the people. Now that they have made the grand round, it is stated that Gen. Banks and Anna Dickinson will soon start "on a stumping tour" on the same circuit. It would not be surprising to hear of Wendell Phillips and Ben. Butler following next. Per contra, Brick Pomeroy has recently been on a Southern speech making tramp, and C—(opperhead) L. Vallandigham follows, by request. A. J., and Wm. H. S., two gentlemen not unknown to fame, are in the Carolinas beating the bush for another President, and a host of lesser lights are following in their footsteps. Under the salutary and refreshing influence of the boys in blue, the ladies and gentlemen who desire to ventilate their ideas in the presence of the chivalry will have an opportunity to do so, with a proper respect for their bodily safety, and due regard for appearing in public in modern apparel, instead of the old time gratuitous presentation of tar and feathers.

SHORT, SHARP AND DECISIVE.

It is an established custom in political campaigns that the victorious party shall make the next subsequent nominations first. The Democratic victory, although rather a barren one, last fall, gives them the initiative in this campaign, but they appear to be courting procrastination in making their nominations, probably to give absent candidates an opportunity to examine the "ways" before launching themselves into a Convention. Major Bruce is out on a preliminary prospecting trip, but the ninety and nine other aspirants of Helena, Virginia and the rural districts are lying idle, or at least quietly active, in camp. The Democratic Convention has been recommended to be held in Helena on or about the 15th or 20th of July, and will certainly not take place prior to the first named day, if then. This will only give us a campaign of six or seven weeks before the September election, a sufficient length of time, however, for the fortunate candidate to sacrifice himself a good deal to the interests of the people. The Union Convention will be announced as soon as the day for holding the Democratic Convention is definitely fixed.

"SO WE GO."

There is, and is to be, quite a change in this section of the newspaper world. Mr. Joseph Wright is coming up the river to assist Major Bruce with the *Democrat*. Capt. R. E. Fiske, the "responsible," will also return to the *Herald* office. The *Beaver Head News*, after peregrinating around the country a little is about to locate again in Virginia. The *Salmon Riverites* are to have a newspaper at Grantsville. The *Vedette* has changed hands, editors and size. The *Denver Daily* has changed its name to that of *The Colorado Tribune*. Dr. J. E. Warton has vacated the editorial chair of the *Denver News*, and is starting a paper of his own at Georgetown, under the title of the *Colorado Miner*. Mr. W. R. Thomas, late of the *Register*, has taken Dr. Warton's late position on the *Nets*.

THE WESTERN ROUTE.

Our friends to the westward are agitating the question of the Montana trade, and urging the repair of the Mullan road, as an entering wedge to the securing to the west of the trade now almost absolutely monopolized by St. Louis. The *Oregonian*, of May 11th, has the following on the subject:

Mr. Phillip Ritz, who has spent the last six months upon a trip to Washington, on business connected with the opening of the Mullan road, arrived here by the last steamer. He is confident that no difficulty will be experienced in getting from Congress, at its next session, an appropriation sufficient to open the Mullan road from Walla Walla to Helena, Montana. The sum he estimates as sufficient is \$75,000. He passed over the road last fall and found that the only portion of the road which cannot now be travelled with wagons, is that from the Cour d'Alene Mission, two hundred and nine miles from Walla Walla to the mouth of the river, a distance of about seventy miles. This part of the road lies in the Cour d'Alene mountains, where the Mullan road frequently crosses the river. The bridges built by Captain Mullan were all very low and were washed away by the first high water which followed. It will be necessary to replace some of these, and to grade a few places to avoid crossing the river. It will be necessary also to repair or reconstruct some of the corduroy road laid down by Mullan. The original expenditure on the road was \$240,000, and it was opened for wagons to Fort Benton. When Mullan began the road at Walla Walla, he was somewhat inexperienced, but as he went on he naturally learned his business better, and the consequence is the worst part of the road is that which was first built—on the Walla Walla end, and there the greater part of whatever appropriation may be given must be expended. Mr. Ritz, after gathering all the information attainable on his trip, expresses the unqualified opinion that the Montana trade belongs to the Pacific slope, and that even goods from New York can be transported to Virginia City or Helena, via Portland, Oregon—should the Mullan road be opened for wagons—cheaper than by the way of St. Louis and the Missouri river. Freight from New York to St. Louis, he says, costs \$70 per ton, while the same goods can be put down in Portland for about \$23. From St. Louis to Helena, by river and wagon road is near 2,000 miles travel; from Portland to Helena, by river and wagon road, is about 750 miles. With an appropriation of \$75,000, he thinks every part of the road from Walla Walla to Helena can be put in excellent condition for heavy teaming and that the goods can be less cost than through from Portland to the effect that from St. Louis. We of this side would have another advantage: while the boats from St. Louis can make only one trip in a season, the same team on this side could make two if not three trips. Mr. Ritz expresses surprise that Portland should quietly allow St. Louis to appropriate the Montana trade, when the facts are patent that the most of it could be secured by the former with less than half the expense and difficulties encountered by the St. Louis people.

FROM BANNACK.

From our Regular Correspondent.

Smith & Graeter have above one hundred and fifty hands on the new ditch. Many weary and disappointed "gold-seekers," who have been hunting for a "big thing" at Salmon, are returning disgusted, and are finding employment from the Bannack Ditch Company. A new ditch, fifteen miles long, in addition to the present thirteen miles, is being constructed. It will also be built by this company this summer. So Bannack cannot fail in giving employment to many men. No hands need be idle—more are wanted. Two powerful hydraulics are employed in the gulches west of town, and preparations are still going on for more extensive mining operations. This company has not less than ten years of profitable mining in store. A brighter future never was promised to any company. Miners are busy washing up their pay dirt, which accumulated in large piles during the winter.

A shaft was commenced during the extreme cold weather of March, to be sunk in the bed of Grasshopper, with a view to work the bed of this stream, where it is well known that millions of rich treasure lie undisturbed and of no use in the progress of the world. Often times before has it been tried, and owing to the quicksands and water, has proved a failure. Mr. John Miller, of New York, and Messrs. William and George Alexander, of this place, have undertaken this almost impossible work; but their shaft is strongly timbered, and every precaution has been taken to secure success. It is now nearly completed, and is nine by thirty feet. The immense difficulties so far are gradually disappearing. The late storm has put these enterprising men back to some extent; but "fall" is not their word. They intend prosecuting the work to completion. Many success attend these hardy and industrious men. To them the credit belongs, and if they succeed, will not fail to reap a golden harvest.

A big race was the excitement of Bannack and Argenta, to-day. Johnny Stone, one of the most expert riders of the earth, bet a large amount that he could make the trip from Argenta to Bannack and back again in two hours. He left Argenta at four o'clock, made Bannack in precisely fifty-five minutes, and his mare was in good trim; rested one min-

ute; gave his noble animal a little water and whiskey, and was off again like the wind for Argenta, amid the shouts of the throng. When half way back, he had then exhausted only one hour and twenty-two minutes of his time; and when last heard from was four miles from Argenta, and had twenty-five minutes of time. Bets ran high for Johnny. No one doubts that he is the winner. One week ago, when the roads were muddy, he made a similar bet, but lost by eleven minutes. The distance is fifteen miles, over a mountainous road. Is there any record to beat this? Johnny gives his animal the advantage of all the hills by jumping from the saddle upon the ground both up and down grades, the animal never slacking her gait, and again lightning in the saddle as easily as a bird would light on a swinging branch. S. F. D. Bannack, June 2d, 1867.

FROM HIGHLAND.

The Election—The Other Side of the Case. EDITOR POST:—In your issue of May 11th appeared a communication signed "A Republican," relative to the township election that took place here on the 20th of April, that contained a number of statements that the facts in the case in no wise warrant, and knowing that you are disposed to publish facts rather than emanations from any clique, faction or individual, I beg a brief space in your columns to set your numerous readers right in regard to the matter.

The Board of Commissioners appointed the Judges and Inspector of said election, regardless of their political proclivities. They were selected because they were well known and responsible citizens. They selected two competent men to act as Clerks—one a Democrat, the other a Republican. The polls were opened open at 7 o'clock A. M. At that time the Judges and one Clerk were on hand, and ready for business; the other Clerk (Republican) did not appear. Thus matters remained until quarter past 8 o'clock, when the people becoming impatient to deposit their ballots, the Judges found it necessary to fill the vacancy caused by the absence of said Clerk. There was no time to lose, and the first competent person found was selected. He, too, proved to be a Democrat, though this was not known to the judges at the time. All went smoothly on, until about fifty voters had deposited their ballots, when the following pleasing (?) note was handed to the judges:

"We Republicans most emphatically object to Democrats running this machine exclusively. Ginger (the absent clerk) is our choice."

This demand, under the circumstances heretofore stated, was of course unheeded. During the day, many slurs were thrown out by that "leading man of the opposition," to the effect that "the Democrats were bound to be victorious, as they had it all their own way,"—meaning, of course, that they (the judges and clerks) would stuff the ballot-box, if necessary, to carry the election. After the polls were closed, the same "leading" individual demanded to be admitted to the room to witness the counting of the ballots. This request was refused, not because the Board did not wish to have any one present, but because he had been "leading" so much during the day that they had become disgusted with his importunities. This action upon the part of the judges, upon which "A Republican" lays so much stress, did not, nor could not, cause honest citizens any uneasiness, as the polls were held in a house on a public street, and the windows were open, so that any person so disposed could see and hear the ballots counted. No man worthy of being considered a leader of any party (political or otherwise) was threatened or "gone after" by any Democrat, either on the day of election or any day thereafter. We say this, not in a spirit of malice, but because we deem any one unfit to be a "leading man" who does not adhere to the truth in his statements.

When "A Republican" asserted that the judges did not select one of his party to act as Clerk of said election, he stated a falsehood, and knew it to be such. No Democrat can be intimidated or prevented from expressing his honest convictions by threats made by a falsifier, though he styles himself a "leading man." A DEMOCRAT. Red Mountain City, June 2, 1867.

THE proposition to rebuild the great Lindell Hotel, at St. Louis, by subscription, has totally failed. The correspondent of the *Cincinnati Commercial* says: "How to raise the necessary funds has been the query which has been rackling the brains of the St. Louis capitalists. At the north end of the city, and for the first few days, the work went bravely on till over \$200,000 was subscribed. The question was, how to get some money out of Isaac Walker, a real estate agent, or 'Old Walker,' as he is irreverently called, who is possessed of great landed wealth in the neighborhood of the late Lindell. Over \$600,000 worth of property he owns, opposite, in the rear and on both sides of the hotel, and though the rebuilding would doubtless be of great material interest to his property, yet he refused to give a cent; and to force the old gentleman to 'come down,' the proposition was mooted to build the hotel on Twelfth street, away from the business portion of the city. But Mr. Walker was not to be scared into subscribing, and has gone east to escape the persecutions of the committee on subscriptions. Mr. Ames, the owner of the land, now seeing that there is so little hope of the Lindell's being rebuilt, has announced that he will erect a block of stores on the old site. In short, there is no prospect that the hotel will be rebuilt. It never was a success; it was not paying expenses at the time it was burned."