

THE MONTANA POST.

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

VOL. 4, NO. 32.

HELENA, MONTANA, SATURDAY, MAY 16.

WHOLE NO. 192.

The Montana Post.

JAMES H. MILLS, - EDITOR.

FOR PRESIDENT,
GENERAL U. S. GRANT,
OF ILLINOIS.

SUBJECT TO THE DECISION OF THE NATIONAL
REPUBLICAN CONVENTION.

CONTENTS OF THIS NUMBER.

PAGE 1.—That Printing Bill; Indian Affairs; Why we oppose it; Mineral Resources in Congress; The Washington Rumors; The Three Issues Miscellaneous.

PAGE 2.—From Washington; "Absent on Duty"; Inklings; Drift from a Troubled Sea; Pen and Scissors; From Benton; Miscellaneous.

PAGE 3.—Donnelly vs. Washburn; Miscellaneous.

PAGE 4.—Telegrams; Specials to the Poor; From Phillipsburg; Inklings; Miscellaneous.

PAGE 5.—From Washington; Pen and Scissors; He not Discouraged; How they do it; The Jefferson Valley Hoaxing.

PAGE 6.—Telegrams.

PAGE 7.—Helena and Virginia City Local.

PAGE 8.—Helena and Virginia City Local; Helena Letter East; Helena Market Report; Montana Post Directory.

THAT PRINTING BILL.

The Democrat of the 7th has an intricately constructed, vapid fulmination of forensic obsequy, which, like Evaris' speech, aspires to immortality by being eternally long sentenced. We might ask how a "misomer" could occur in the "admeasurement" of the public printing, and what the writer knows about public or other printing. We might, in reply to his inquiry what we have to justify our language toward Major Bruce, state that he charged D. W. Tilton & Co. with fraud and admitted that if he had expected to receive any thanks for it he would have assisted to fix it up; that he charged by a low insinuation that Secretary Tutts had been guilty of malfeasance in office in selling the public printing to D. W. Tilton & Co., and that the entire letter was prompted by a petty spite because he did not get the work. We may say here that there never was a job of legislative printing done in the mountains where material and composition is two, three, or four times as much as it is in the States, that is not "cut down" at Washington if not "lobbied" through by outsiders. More, that the composition was measured by the foreman, and the compositors paid for the entire amount, as they will swear to, in gold, at the rates of the Typographical Union—\$1 per 1,000 ems—for the work charged, and if this statement in the Democrat is correct, the U. S. government will not pay to D. W. Tilton & Co. in greenbacks, the amount actually paid in gold to compositors, foreman and pressman for the work, the material not counted at all, the freight alone on which was 25 cents per pound. We do not propose to controvert the statement, from the simple fact that while the Democrat purports to have a statement of our accounts from the Department at Washington, and appears to know all about our business, we have not yet had the honor to hear from there, although the money was paid out months ago by D. W. Tilton & Co., and the U. S. government is our debtor. This bill was for the entire printing of Journals of the House and Council, blanks, cards, messages, bills, many of which numbering from twenty to over one hundred pages each, printed on flat-cap paper, never became laws, but were all ordered printed, with those that did become laws, and all the incidental printing of two entire sessions of the Montana Legislature, except some \$300 or \$350 worth of work given to Major Bruce. From four to six men were employed, a great portion of the time day and night, exclusively on this work, and the sessions lasted fifty-one days. We submit it to the craft here and throughout the mountains that the bill could not have been exorbitant, and this figure is cut down to be an outrageous imposition. Be that as it may, we will attend to that portion of it ourselves in due time, but we ask the careful perusal of the following figures as given in the Democrat:

House bills charged.....	\$2,708 35
Allowed.....	692 30
Balance.....	\$2,016 05
Cut down.....	\$1,815 76
Balance.....	\$190 29
Press work.....	78 50
Allowed.....	418 00
Balance.....	339 50
Cut down.....	5 32 59
Balance.....	283 91
Exp.	2 81 50
Allowed.....	510 25
Balance.....	228 75
Cut down.....	230 75
Balance.....	0 00
Miscellaneous printing.....	449 25
Allowed.....	151 79
Balance.....	297 46
Cut down.....	297 46
Balance.....	0 00

RECAPITULATION.
Amount of bill as total charged by D. W. Tilton & Co., as per bill..... \$2,708 35
Amount cut down..... 3,067 55

INDIAN AFFAIRS.

Except to note instances of Indian barbarities and to condemn in general, and though lack of language to express fully our intense detestation in somewhat mild terms the policy of the government toward the Indians, we have not this season devoted much space to the great scourge of the west. It has not been through indifference to the situation, though it is true the annual recurrence of outrages such as are now freighted every channel of communication with crimson messages, has to a certain extent deprived them of the thrill of excitement that comes only with an infrequent horror. It has not been that our frontier people, long and patiently enduring that which should be remedied, have accepted the situation, and go beyond the confines of the town or camp, carrying their lives in their hands and bearing with scarce a murmur these terrible grievances; this offering of their homes to the ever lighted torch; this barring of their bosoms and offering wives and children to the merciless knife of the savage as necessarily incidental to their lot, that we have not raised our voice more frequently in protestation. It is, that where we have seen much that is wrong and in common with others think the true remedy is a complete reversal of the entire Indian policy of the government, still every effort that has been made to accomplish it has met with the morbid prejudice of the east, among the masses, and with the money of contractors, agents, superintendents, etc., in the committees and departments. In an earnest endeavor of years we have failed to accomplish anything, save it be a still more wicked drivelling policy on the part of the government, winning for the frontiersman still more dangers and for ourselves the name and repute of blood-thirsty monsters. Who will say that this is not so? Is there any inducement to longer entreat or sue for redress? If the lurid glare of hundreds of burning houses, and the death groans of thousands of the government's bravest and most useful citizens last year, heralded and repeated in newspapers over all the land, did but bring parchment to our aid and powder to the Indians this year, what hopes have we that better may come the next by the same process? We do not agree with our cotemporaries who see safety in multiplied military posts in the interior country. In our estimation, they are useless, expensive burdens, doing more evil than good. We have known their horses taken from under their guns; their soldiers shot down almost without the stockade; the flag insulted without reparation, and they dependent upon citizens to bring them food and storage. We have not known any military post on the emigrant routes to be of any real service to the settlers or emigrants; nor can they be under the present policy. We submit it, if they are a useless and expensive encumbrance, hampered by restrictive orders that render them only targets for the insolent bravado of the savages without permission to retaliate, inciting them to extend their war to the settlements, why either multiply or continue them? The evil rests not where it can be remedied, except at Washington, and we venture the prediction that if the commanding or subordinate officers of any post in the Indian country would exercise their own convictions of duty and revenge any Indian outlawry, they would be punished and probably cashiered. The withdrawal of the posts from the Bozeman route, therefore, is only to be regretted because it will be succeeded by orders to prevent emigrants from using the road. The government says those lands belong to the Indians, and the whites are encroaching upon them. Why then, if it is intended to be just, does the government recognize the white government in Montana, collect revenue from, and grant United States titles for lands, minerals and town sites, upon which, to the best of our knowledge, the Indian title has never been extinguished and is as much the property of the Indians as the Powder, Tongue or Big Horn valleys? Justice should be equal. Should any foreign power do a thousandth part of the outrage to American citizens that is yearly meted to them by the Indian tribes, navies would be launched and armies marched to conquer and revenge. And yet, Indian hostilities are not only endured but aided, abetted and encouraged by the Government officials. They feed and equip their enemies; sacrifice and plot against the pioneers; and in all things do that which is most calculated to result to the detriment of the country, and conspire to defeat the progress of civilization and the development of the great West. We believe the thing is all "wrong shipped," and see but three contingencies that will ever terminate the present state of such

ness: First—and may kind Heaven have mercy on their souls—the massacre of the Peace Commission, so-called, by the Indians. That would bring down the vengeance of the Government. Second, a war upon the settlements, of sufficient magnitude to incite the mountain men to expeditions that will leave Bearriver in the shade and a few hundred red devils in the fond embrace of death. This we consider most probable of the two, and both these depend upon the Indians. Third, the building of railroads across the Territories, not so immediate, but permanent and beneficent in all their results. For the first we have only the known treachery of the Indians. For the second, it is the duty of those in exposed localities in this Territory to organize and ask to be furnished with the arms now in the Territory for that purpose. For the third we should labor with assiduity and earnestness, trusting to that, more than to any other, for a final and satisfactory solution of a trouble that began on the Atlantic coast but must end on the slopes of the Rocky Mountains.

WHY WE OPPOSE IT.

The Cheyenne Commercial Record, in quoting an article in which we deprecated encouraging the construction of the proposed branch line from the U. P. R. R., in Utah, to Montana, thinks it better to do that than trust to the uncertainties of the Northern Road, citing the old adage that "a bird in the hand is worth two in the bush." It is true there are advantages accruing to Montana from this proposed branch road: it is also probable that if Montana would ask or encourage it, the Central Road has influence enough to get a bill through Congress authorizing the construction of the road with the same subsidies granted the Central and at an earlier day than we can possibly hope for the Northern Road, for we find the Committee on Railroads have ready to report, the bill for the Portland branch. It was in view of these facts and probabilities that we opposed the measure at first, and do yet. A bird in the hand may be worth two in the bush if they are the same kind of birds; but we would prefer to wait a certainty to be obtained ere, rather than to accept in inconsiderate haste a proffered vulture. What is to be gained by this, north and south, Utah branch? Simply an important railroad connection with a point three hundred or four hundred miles distant, the saving of a few hours time and the building in Montana of perhaps 250 miles of railroad. It would not materially lessen fare or freight, develop our Territory when completed or in process of construction, or be of advantage in building up the solid walls of civilization to check the ravages of the Indians. It would, however, be a leech to deplete the Territory of that allment which is needed and which should be retained for a more desirable road. You on the Central road complain of exorbitant rates of fare and freightage, and you find that Washburn's bill for a Commission to revise the rates has gone to the committee on Railroads, and if not past resurrection, will scarce be revived to the advantage of any but the Company. The board of Directors claim that the passenger rates of 10 cents per mile and freightage of 14 cents a ton per mile cannot be reduced, when fuel has now, as it ever will have, to be carried several hundred miles on the route, and wood averages \$20 per cord on the line. We do not care to throw ourselves prematurely into the folds of the Central Iron ascendancy. It is not our fault they have not chosen the best route. We are on a line of road, 500 miles of which would be in Montana, passing east and west through its very heart; opening up the great fertile valleys to the eastward where now no white man dare go, and we have good authority for the assertion that we can, if desirable, secure the extension of the eastern boundary one hundred miles farther, making the Missouri river the eastern boundary, and giving us six hundred miles of a great international railway within our borders, well supplied with fuel and free from snow. Along this line would be built up settlements as the road would be constructed that would put a *finale* to Indian depredations on our eastern borders, and open up to industry one of the richest regions in the northwest. It would give us reduced freightage on machinery and goods from the west, by the use of the water communication of the Columbia. It would place us on a great trunk, instead of an insignificant branch line. It would moreover benefit the entire country in making competition of through freights. It would, in short, be more materially to our interest to

have the Northern road, and the accomplishment of the branch would in all probability retard the other for years. We believe the subject only needs consideration to make the North-west a unit in objecting to the branch under present circumstances, and holding fast to the determination that the Northern shall, must, and will be built.

MINERAL RESOURCES IN CONGRESS.

J. Ross Browne made a report to Congress last year upon the mineral resources of our country. The report was especially acceptable to the people of Nevada from the fact that four fifths of it, as Mr. Holbrook, of Idaho, asserted in the House, was taken up with a description of the mines of that State, and more especially with the description of one of them, the Comstock Ledge. The introduction of a resolution to have over fifteen thousand of these reports printed, gave rise the other day to a very animated Congressional discussion, in which the Delegate from Montana participated, and of which we received a full report in the *Congressional Globe*. Mr. Cavanaugh, in giving reasons for his objection to the resolution, stated that the report, so far as it related to the resources of Montana, was incorrect from the title page to the end, and that the facts upon which to base it were furnished to Mr. Browne by Dr. Blatchley after a sixty days' trip across the continent, three weeks of that time only being spent in Montana. Our delegate stated that Dr. Blatchley, during his brief stay in Montana, left not less than fifty gulches and over one hundred mines unvisited, and was not therefore competent to give any facts concerning this country. We can do no less than commend Mr. Cavanaugh's zeal in behalf of our Territory on this occasion referred to, albeit the resolution to print and send forth to the world over fifteen thousand copies of a work which falls to Montana complete justice, was eventually passed.

It is doubtless true, with regard to the report referred to, that Dr. Blatchley endeavored to give a fair and impartial compilation of the facts which, by hard work we believe, he gathered together during his three weeks stay with us. It is also true that the compensation allowed for the work was not sufficient to justify such a thorough investigation of the subject in hand as should always be made in the preparation of any report which comes to the people from such high authority as the Congress of the United States. We apprehend, indeed, that this matter of insufficient compensation has arisen the cloud of uncertainty that hangs about the reports—more especially the mineral reports—of Congress, and we do hope that that august body will, in the future, have the wisdom to either expend sufficient money to render its reports reliable or else let the mineral resources of the country take care of themselves, however much the latter course might lessen the feed of the voracious public printing press. Unless this proposed change is made, there are certainly great inducements for the person making the report to allow prominent mine owners to pay a portion of his traveling or other expenses, out of purely friendly motives, of course; but motives, also, which could not be fairly reciprocated save by a favorable, or at least not unfavorable, notice of the benefactor's property. We are happy to believe that no such considerations have had any influence upon the report of Mr. Browne; but speak of the matter here for the purpose of showing why Congress should either prepare thorough reports or else abandon altogether that certain kind of literature which may, in time, come to rank but little higher than a pamphlet of advertisements. "What is worth doing is worth doing well."

Another report upon mineral resources was sent to Congress on the 2d inst., by the Hon. James W. Taylor, Commissioner for the Collection of Statistics of Gold and Silver Mining. That portion of this report referring to Montana was prepared by Prof. W. S. Keyes, of this city, who spent much time and labor upon it, and who investigated the subject upon which he wrote, so far as he was assisted by government for expenses was taken into consideration. We do not anticipate, however, that this report will meet with full favor from our people, for it is useless to deny the fact that many of them have so little idea of the significance of figures that anything less than a hundred million of dollars seems like mere beggary to them, and a report upon Montana's gold product which deals in anything less than the above some amount is looked upon with favor. When too indolent to inves-

tigate the matter for themselves they always give the Territory the benefit of a doubt and are sure to get the figures high enough. Congress, on the other hand, when too close sisted to give the matter the attention it deserves, gives the benefit of a doubt to the other side and is certain to have the amount placed low enough. And thus it is that neither party is ever satisfied with the statements of the other. Let us hope that the people of our Territory may, at no distant day, form a society for the gathering of reliable statistics which shall, when opportunity offers, be placed at the disposal of Congress and be eventually laid before the people of the United States—statistics which will not content themselves with mere assertions, but which will prove Montana to be, what we claim, one of the richest mineral regions and most favored portions of our country.

THE WASHINGTON RUMORS.

While there is but comparatively little expressed in regard to the result of the impeachment, we take it that over this broad land there exists at present an intensified, unutterable anxiety for the result among those who gave their services, their money, their kindred, or their moral support to the war for the Union, that has been unparalleled since the patriot Lincoln fell by the hand of an assassin. It is not upon the mere question of whether Andrew Johnson made disgraceful speeches or vented his spleen against Edwin M. Stanton, but it is whether the great principles of humanity shall be stricken down and crushed by the mailed and clenched hand of revived rebellion; it is whether the reconstruction of the rebellious States shall be the work of those who have the authority to do so vested in them by the Constitution and that right ratified by the sacrifice of three hundred thousand loyal lives; whether they shall, like dumb driven brutes, yield up tamely, cowardly, despicably, traitorously, to an usurping Executive the jewels entrusted to their keeping by a now breath-bated nation. It would be an alliance with, and assuming responsibility for, one whom they have told us was an infidel and a traitor to the cause, and whose later record is a blackened page of crime. He has shown antagonism where there should have been harmony; bred discord where unity was springing with new life on soil that has felt heavily enough the iron heel of war, and with rude hands torn afresh the deep wounds of the nation. He has been the broken cog that at every revolution jarred the entire system of government; the destroyer rending with nervous hands the fairest fabrics that were ever woven in the looms of legislation—and yet we are told they will acquit him. We do not believe it. Seven of the best lawyers of the House never presented, at a crisis like this, eleven articles of impeachment in which there was nothing, that if proven, would justify conviction and removal, and the ablest jurors in the land who have gathered there to witness the most important trial in our history affirm that so completely proven a case in all its intricate details was never before in their knowledge brought to a bar for decision.

It is everything and all things that can immediately or ultimately affect the institutions of the Great Republic, turning upon the decision as to whether he violated a certain law of the land, as he himself admitted—and yet we are told he will not be convicted. We know the eleven Democratic Senators have voted as a unit upon every point that has been raised; we know that the Republican Senators have frequently divided and voted as they believed right; we know that it requires but 6 of the 43 Republicans to wheel into line with the Democracy to effect his acquittal; we know that Wade is not a favorite and that envies and covetings for the vacant chair are troubling half the Senate; we know the boast has been made that Johnson's friends could buy enough members to secure his acquittal—yet knowing these things we have the faith firm and strong that they will do their duty in the hour, and the country throwing off the Old Man of the Sea, will rise with new strength, relieved of its terrible, torturing burden, and go forth in the vigor of a new and better life. These rumors are but a new series of those issued in the olden time, when the gold ring bulls and bears always found it put money in their purses to first say defeat was victory and victory defeat.

The product of the Pennsylvania oil regions is now about 2,000 barrels per day. This product is from about sixty farms or districts. The stock now on hand in the oil regions is about 500,000 barrels. The yield is gradually decreasing and prices declining. Only twenty new wells were struck in the month ending April 30, ten of which pay for pumping.

THE THREE ISSUES.

Owing somewhat to the death of Sunday schools in Montana, and perhaps more to the multifarious duties and evil proclivities of an editor, we have latterly been very negligent in our attention to that earliest recollection of every well regulated, orthodox boy and girl, the "Shorter Catechism." Yesterday the apostolic erudite who gets up the Sunday editorials for the *Gazette*, recalled old memories of a mixed character by exclaiming us after the following fashion, respectfully "requiring direct categorical answers." We could not very well give an indirect categorical answer; neither can we admit the right of any man to "require" us to answer any questions he may see fit to propound: The right of silence is as sacred as the right of speech, and we feel like holding you to account for endeavoring to enforce prematurely (before J. D. is cleared) your very undemocratic doctrine announced the other day that one tyrant was preferable to ten. However, we must admit the *Gazette* is very courteously and very mildly tyrannical in its requirements. Therefore we will answer.

1. Are you in favor of the disfranchisement of the white race in the South?
No!
 2. Are you in favor of negro suffrage in the Southern States, to the exclusion of the whites, thus elevating the former above the latter in point of political equality?
No!
 3. Are you in favor of manhood or negro suffrage and equality, socially and politically, throughout the whole Union?
No!
 4. Should the Republican National Convention nominate Fred. Douglas, the Radical negro, for President, would you vote for him in preference to the Democratic nominee?
No!
- Having given you absolute replies, you can scarce misunderstand them if you understood your interrogatories. We will however offer the following explanations:
1. We are Republican. Republicans believe in enfranchisement of the people of the South—not disfranchisement. Your Democratic eight millions in the South disfranchised themselves by the acts of secession. We wish to restore to them their forfeited franchise. Andrew Johnson, by his reconstruction acts, excepted fourteen classes, over 300,000 white voters, from any participation in reconstruction, while Congress in their reconstruction reduced it to one class of less than 45,000. You see we could not consistently favor the first proposition.
 2. Your question is extremely absurd. Read it again. We have answered what we presumed you meant.
 3. There is no such thing as social equality, as applied to a people or classes. The world does not furnish—never did furnish—an example of it. It is a fallacy. No party in this country has ever favored any such theory. If the people of each State should adopt "manhood" suffrage we should have no right to object, although we have, individually, views on this subject different from any yet presented by a party.
 4. We cannot conceive of any circumstances under which, as the party exists at present, we would vote for a Democratic nominee for President; nor are there any circumstances under which we would vote for a negro President. In that case we would have no preference.

THE fate of all secret societies is probably sealed ere this. The National Convention of Christians, who are opposed to all such inquiries, was to have met at Pittsburgh, Pa., on the 5th, 6th and 7th of May. J. H. Fairchild, President of Oberlin College, Ohio; J. Blanchard, President Wheaton College, Ill., and Hon. Henry Wilson, U. S. Senator, were on for addresses. We think Hon. Henry was otherwise engaged about that time, and the others had better have been.

Colorado Items.

The railroad from Denver to Cheyenne has been commenced. In Jefferson county there are seven well defined coal veins, fifteen feet in thickness. Miners on North Clear creek are taking out an ounce per day to the man. John Boylan has started up the Enterprise (35 stamp) mill. A trifle over 2,000 lbs. of ore taken from the "Terrible" lead yielded over \$1,000. Two cords of ore from the Bates mine recently yielded 20 ounces of gold. A 40 stamp mill is to be erected on North Clear creek this summer. A company called the Preston G. M. Co. has been formed, with a capital stock of \$1,000,000, to put a mill in operation in Park county. Affairs at the Cimarron mines are reported to be in a very unprosperous condition. The Republican Territorial Convention was to have been held in Denver, May 6th. The Cliff lode at Georgetown recently yielded \$121.56 in silver to the ton.