

The Montana Post

FRIDAY MORNING, JAN. 15.

Registered letters, the cost of which was heretofore 20 cents, can since Jan. 1st, 1909, be sent to any part of the United States for 15 cents.

250,988,983 passengers traveled on English railways last year. Only 219 were killed and 795 wounded. Such a careful regard for life would be regarded as inexcusable on this side the Atlantic.

DISPATCHES from Mexico say another revolution is imminent. The administration of Juarez is said to be disgusting the people, and they are clamoring for war. There is said to be no protection to American citizens.

THE recent earthquake at Colinas was very destructive in more respects than one. Besides demolishing cathedrals and hotels, uprooting trees, making fissures in the earth, changing the beds of water-courses, etc., it completely upset the anti-earthquake theory of atmospheric influences advanced by the Overland Monthly.

The Gazette, recognizing the imperative necessity to "say something" in response to "Once More's" solid shot at their correspondent, exhausts itself by the following:

"The people of Montana have several times shown that it was Mr. Hooper's decision, and not the Legislature which they elected to represent them, that they considered 'bogus.'"

Does the Gazette assume the position that the people of Montana and not the judges are to expound the laws?

TIME was when great men were canonized—now they are canonized. Congress last year appropriated a number of guns for Sedgwick's monument; at this they have appropriated a number for a monument to General Phil Kearney, the intrepid and chivalric. Each was worthy.

THE newspaper contest over the Missouri senatorship grows hot. The St. Joe Union, (Ben. Loan's organ) charges Carl Schurz with proposing "to hand over the Government to the rebels, not only in this State, but in most of the Southern States, with 'playing into the hands of the Democratic party' and betraying his constituents."

The presentation of a blue primer to each of the legislators, appears to have completely upset them with gratitude. Mr. Bagg is going to explain to his fellow members the hours of day, Mr. Dance proposes to repudiate the Council adjourns on a half holiday anniversary of the only battle they appear to have any knowledge of, and Donnegan gives vent to his exultation in a Capitol bill, while the House makes Major Bruce an honorary member of the Curston Committee. If they are through with the business of the session it would be a happy idea to adjourn.

THE Gazette says Butler's project to consolidate the South American Republics into one mission, is the first correct move toward economy Congress has made. Possibly the Gazette does not recognize the reduction in expenses for the year of \$408,105,781.80, as shown by the Treasurer's report, or remember what a howl the Johnson ring made when the estimates were cut down. When Mr. Washburn makes his report and Congress acts upon the appropriations at this session, the Gazette will have larger opportunity to commend, and we hope it will be as favorably inclined as would be to approve an effort for economy on the part of the Montana Legislature. While a Radical Congress has been aiding great national enterprises and diminishing the public debt, the Montana Legislature has been doubling the debt, and has done nothing whatever in the way of public improvements.

The Superior Gazette, published at Superior, Wisconsin, says of the silver indications near Fort Williams, Lake Superior, Canada:

"With a branch of the Northern Pacific Railroad to the mouth of Pigeon river, and American enterprise untrammelled by any such restrictions as were imposed by the passage of the late act termed the 'Gold and Silver Mining Act of Canada, we firmly believe that this region of country (to the north and northeast of Lake Superior) would soon be developed into another Montana or even California. So far as regards rich mineral bearing lodes, during a residence of eight years in Colorado or Montana we have never seen in either, so many or so rich surface indications. The Vermilion Lake mineral veins are undoubtedly an extension, almost due west, of those."

The Thunder Bay Mining Company are prosecuting developments energetically, working some forty men, are down some seventy feet, and will have an eight-stamp English mill in operation this spring. The Crown-land Commissioners have visited the region and a more liberal policy will be adopted to encourage operations than now exists in their mineral laws.

Chicago contains 62,433 Germans.

BEST MEN.

The resumption of work on the Union lode by the employees of Mr. Holge, and the disposition on the part of Mr. Tatem and the employees on his works to resume operations immediately, is a matter of congratulation to all concerned, and creditable to their good sense. Instead of a protracted strike, several hundred men thrown out of employment and wasting their means, and perhaps deeds of violence as almost invariably characterize such proceedings when persisted in, we have seen manifested on both sides, since the mutual mistakes of its commencement, a calm, temperate dignity of conduct and expression, creating none of that bitterness which so frequently prevents a return to amicable relations after the first cause of complaint has been adjusted. Believing that the conduct of the press of this city has been with that object in view, and that its liberal views and careful expressions have tended to the result chronicled with gratification, we think it a lesson to all, happily and costlessly one, to control us in the possible recurrence of such an event. Combinations for protection, either of Capital or Labor, naturally with acquisition of controlling power, encroach upon the rights of the other and assume an absolutism dictating compulsory co-operation on the part of the other, inconsistent with and adverse to the larger and more permanent bond of co-operation that comes of a recognized common interest from which they will reap common advantages. That exceptional circumstances do arise when self preservation justifies alliances of the weak against the strong is true, but they are exceptional, just as the alliance of smaller powers is sometimes requisite in times of imminent peril to protect themselves from a threatening foe. Yet their individual welfare requires that, the danger past, the alliance be dissolved. Capital and labor are each parts of a perfect whole, each necessary to the other. Experience has demonstrated that by the cultivation of fraternal sympathies between the two by practical evidences is attained the highest perfection and economy on the one hand and the greatest happiness and prosperity in the other. As an instance of this we may cite the most successful coal companies in Pennsylvania, who pay an equitable compensation, provide comfortable homes and gardens, school houses and churches, and company stores for their employees at actual cost. They have the best, most temperate and reliable miners, and strikes are unknown. No one who has visited these mines and bright cheerful villages on the Monongahela, will ever after doubt the advantages of the system. Another instance is that of the Casement Brothers, contractors on the U. P. R. R. They pay good wages, provide their laborers board at actual cost, and have medical stores and attendance for any who may be injured or ill. Many of these employees have been with them for years, a perfect community of interest is recognized by each, and this is the source of their effort and pride in their labor. The consequence is, they have laid railroad track faster than was ever done by other men in the world, and the Casement are rich. There are no strikes in either of these cases between employers and employees. We do not assume that every mining camp may be made an Utopia, or that the companies developing mines in Montana help the Michigan and Canada and certain other routes, and enrich the stockholders—provided it should ever have any business. Undoubtedly, by the year 1920, it would become a very useful rail road. And, therefore, an "excuse" is particularly light and our debt small just now, and as there are a great many patriotic gentlemen who have a slice in the thing, let us vote the money to build the Michigan and Canada treasury at once!—St. Louis Democrat, Dec. 23.

Is it artful stupidity? St. Louis has sold \$10,000,000 worth of goods per annum for the last five years, to one little settlement "where nobody can live," \$40,000,000 sales at St. Louis profits is too nice a thing to lose, and lose it St. Louis would, with the amount many times multiplied if the Northern road were built. "Icebergs" Perhaps the astute sagacity of the Democrat does not know that the mean annual temperature of settled Montana is higher than that of Indiana or Ohio, and the most prosperous States of the Union. "North Pole" The road is on the 47th north latitude. Look up your forgotten knowledge of learn newly the Great Britain, the German States, Prussia, Norway, Sweden, Denmark, half of France and Austria and nearly all of Russia, and the energies, industries and enlightenment of the earth are north of 47°. We can imagine an Ethiopian in the tropics, sweltering in a pair of calico trousers and a string of beads, making as weighty objections to the folly of attempting a settlement at St. Louis. If the Democrat believes in "no subsidies" and will let the Southern go with the Northern road, we make no complaint, but we dislike to see as prominent a Republican paper as it, by a silly abortion of ridicule make a mocking exposure of its ignorance or selfishness. When the wish is father to the thought, is it strange there should be an identifying resemblance?

The Herald has discovered a way to pay the National debt which it commends to our attention. When the proprietors of the Herald discover a way to pay their private debts the proprietors of this paper would like to hear from them.—Twenty thousand dollars worth.

TOWN SITE ACT.

The proposed entry of the town site of Helena by the Probate Judge, under the act of Congress of March 2, 1867, and the subordinate act of the Montana Legislature of Dec. 12, 1867, suggests the necessity of radical amendment of the Montana statute. The United States act empowers the Legislature to prescribe the rules and regulations for the disposal of the lots. Our statute is exceedingly imperfect. The excuse made for its last session was that it was hurriedly drawn and would be amended this session. We have not noticed the passage of any amendatory act. Among other defects are these:

- 1. There are 1,920 acres surveyed as a town site. This with 4,200 feet to the lot would make 19,917 lots. As the entry fee is \$10 per lot, if all were entered it would make the entry fees alone \$199,170. For the disposition of this money there is no provision except that the money shall be deposited with the county Treasurer, and a sufficient amount be drawn therefrom by orders of the Probate Judge to pay for surveying, platting and entering. Although it is not probable a title of the original survey will be taken up, yet even then there would be a surplus of money for the disposal of which no provision is made.
- 2. The entries by any claimant may not exceed two lots. There is no provision in the old law by which parties who have improvements on more than two lots will be protected in their interests. In the instructions of Commissioner Wilson on the individual entry Act of July 1, 1894, he specifically charges Registers to protect such interests.
- 3. There is no provision for disposal of lots to any claimants except "actual settlers" and persons having made "substantial improvements."
- 4. There is no provision for public sale of lots as contemplated in the United States act.

These are important points and should be covered in the amendments, so that when the present bill difficulty is adjusted there may be no others in the way of a speedy and satisfactory disposal of lots.

PRESIDENTIAL ELECTIONS.

The official vote of the Presidential election shows the total vote cast by the thirty-three States voting for Electors was 5,767,306. Grant's majority over Seymour 338,916. The total vote in 1824 was 1,162,186; in 1840 it was 2,461,485; in 1852, 3,126,375; in 1860, 4,062,170. The exclusion of the people of the Territories from any voice in the selection of President we have seen characterized as "a singular anomaly in our Constitution." The causes that restricting the limitation of voice in the Presidential vote to Electors in the States has passed away. The organization of Territorial governments over all the government domain, except those now acquiring statehood, and the facilities for the transmission of intelligence, have rendered obsolete the arguments that might have been urged when the Constitution was adopted. The proposition to restrict the franchise to persons in the Territories is certainly a republican machine, the Electoral College, and elect by direct vote of the people, will, if adopted, re-open the question, and we can see no good reason why it should be re-opened. We are subject to the Government and its taxation, and residence in a Territory should not disfranchise. The disfranchisement is, at best, based upon partially to a class depending not upon the rights or privileges of the individual, but upon his particular location within the Republic, and upon the time and money he is willing to expend to obtain a vote. For instance: Many persons in the Territories or the District of Columbia, or those abroad, return to their particular home States to vote. For those abroad there is no available remedy, but to those living in organized Territories it is certainly an injustice that debars their vote unless they can expend several hundred dollars and considerable time to reach a particular voting precinct in their home State. The constitutional provision that "the citizens of each State shall be entitled to all privileges and immunities of citizens in the several States" certainly does not contemplate that there should be a restriction of privileges or immunities to certain citizens in the Territories, and their enjoyment by others, and the criterion be the possession of so much leisure and money as it requires to comply with the present system. With the present electoral system there is no avoidance of this injustice, but with its prospective abolishment, there should be a provision of larger justice, conferring the right to vote for President in the Territories, a registration act, as a preventive of fraud, the investiture of delegates with the right to vote in the House, and the privilege of qualified electors in the Territories, to vote for President. And, therefore, an "excuse" is particularly light and our debt small just now, and as there are a great many patriotic gentlemen who have a slice in the thing, let us vote the money to build the Michigan and Canada treasury at once!—St. Louis Democrat, Dec. 23.

THE WISE AND THE FOOLISH.

The Northern Pacific railway company ought to be called "the society for the development and culture of the North Pole." It has merits—great merits. It would hasten the day when our flag should wave triumphantly over the North Pole. It would open up the settlement of a vast tract of country where nobody can live. And, as a trans-continental route, it would greatly help the Michigan and Canada and certain other routes, and enrich the stockholders—provided it should ever have any business. Undoubtedly, by the year 1920, it would become a very useful rail road. And, therefore, an "excuse" is particularly light and our debt small just now, and as there are a great many patriotic gentlemen who have a slice in the thing, let us vote the money to build the Michigan and Canada treasury at once!—St. Louis Democrat, Dec. 23.

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TELEGRAMS BY MAIL.

Appointments have been made as follows: Storekeepers, Stephen Drumheller, for the Twelfth District of Pennsylvania; C. C. Menough, for the District of Montana; Wm. H. Pendleton, for the Second District of Kentucky; John L. Bonor, for the Ninth District of Kentucky.—Washington Cor. N. Y. Tribune, Dec. 23.

Less than a week ago we found in the Tribune the appointment of T. B. Wade, of Montana, as Agent for the Blackfoot Indians and other tribes. Above we have the appointment of C. C. Menough as Storekeeper for the District of Montana. The appointment of Mr. Wade is one requiring confirmation and was sent in with that of Alex. H. Cummings for Pennsylvania, for Commissioner, and other officers, which were telegraphed west, except the appointment of Mr. Wade. Here we have an important appointment that only finds its way to the people of Montana through the medium of the Tribune correspondent, two weeks after it has been made. While it might be too severely just to assert that the circumstances indicate purposed suppression of these appointments in the past, it is certainly open to that conjecture or an inattention to duty on the part of the appointing press agents. We have the appointments for other localities, why not for this? If a man in Canada steals a horse, or the King of the Canibal Islands has an attack of the gout, the details of it are only less voluminous than the graphic delineations of the Paraguayan war, or the florid account of a fight at an English, polling booth, but for items of interest effecting this Territory, we may look to eastern exchanges or private letters. If \$5,000 a year is not sufficient for four papers of Montana to secure the news by associated dispatches, we would like to have the figures named at which it will be done.

Some of the New York papers are turning their attention to the frauds of retailers upon the consumers of Gotham. A light scale here, a little chicory there, and in sugar, water in whisky, and the innumerable adulterations, dilutions and frauds practiced in one way and another are the "many micks" that make the muckle of imposition. The following data gathered from actual transactions, is submitted, as evidence of the extent to which this question bears on consumers. It is not a question whether this fraud is confined to New York city:

There are one million of people living on Manhattan Island. It may be estimated that the average daily expense of living to each inhabitant is \$1. The poor do not average as much as this, but the rich spend vastly more. We have therefore, a weekly expenditure by our citizens of seven millions of dollars, and a yearly expenditure of three hundred and sixty four millions of dollars for food. If the loss to them by false weight and adulterations is fifteen per cent, which is certainly a moderate estimate, then our people are cheated out of fifty-four millions six hundred thousand dollars (\$54,000,000) annually. To descend to an individual case, a housekeeper spending five dollars per day for meat, vegetables and groceries, and cheated fifteen per cent, in adulterations and weights, loses in the year \$273.75, which might and should be served for other purposes.

The Select Committee appointed by Congress to investigate the New York City election, and which the dispatches say had their witnesses arrested while being examined and dragged from court by the Democratic Sheriff and officers, is composed of the following members of Congress: Hon. William Lawrence, of Ohio, Chairman; Hon. Henry L. Dawes, of Massachusetts; Hon. Austin Blair, of Mich.; Hon. O. J. Dickey, of Penn.; Hon. Benj. F. Hopkins, of Wisconsin; Hon. Michael C. Kerr, of Indiana; Hon. Lewis W. Ross, of Illinois. The committee was appointed on a petition of the Union League Club, and the frauds perpetrated were so gross and palpable that there was little doubt of the conviction of a number of prominent New York politicians. They have adopted a method of suppressing the investigation nearly as culpable as the crime. Since Sam. Bowles was kidnapped and rushed off in the night to the Ludlow street jail and refused communication even with his wife, lying ill at the hotel, the New York sheriffs have grown bolder in their iniquity, and rival guerrillas in strategy and dash. Ben. Wood's excuse in the Telegram is as lame as Beverdy Johnson's excuse for toadying Laird.

ECONOMY.

The Gazette, following the advice of the vanquished Seymour, at an hour when his sad fate should have been a warning, very indelicately pipes its notes against the Republican Congress for not exercising more rigid economy. and says, "we do not see any economy in reducing appropriations, while no corresponding decrease is made in expenditures." If it were true that no decrease in expenditures were made, it would have weight, but such is not the case. It is true the war is ended, and the military expenditures are reduced to comparatively nothing, but we have paid since 1865 an interest on the debt incurred of \$375,000,000, and reduced the principal of the debt to \$257,000,000. We have an annual interest to pay of \$125,000,000 per annum, and \$25,000,000 of pensions. We also paid \$1,000,000 in bounties. The editor of the Gazette having served in the Union army, we take it he will not expect to these disbursements. But the Gazette still complains of the expenditures. It is a fact shown by the Reports that our civil service now costs fifteen millions a year less than it did under the Buchanan administration, notwithstanding the military required to maintain order in the Southern States at a cost of \$10,000,000 and which the telegrams show are asked for, irrespective of party or color, for the welfare of peaceable citizens. The Ancient Democratic Mariner Mr. Wells, asks \$35,000,000 for his department, and Mr. Washburne on Wednesday last, recommended he have appropriated \$15,000,000. If he does not get it he will not expend it. The Gazette recommends a decrease in the pay of government officers, but it has no recommendation for a decrease in the pay of Montana Legislators that is now at the rate of nearly \$7,000 each per annum, exclusive of mileage. While we see the most rigid economy in the general government exercised and demanded by Republicans, how is it where Democracy rules? Take a few illustrious examples, New York City and Montana. The Odyke (Rep.) administration that city cost \$12,000,000 per annum; under Hoffman, (Dem.) it cost \$24,000,000 per annum, and he having been sent up to Albany with a Governor's commission, the expenditures of the State are likely to be correspondingly increased one hundred percent, over the administration of Governor Fenton. In Montana that has not even a "marble quarry" to show for it, the people paid \$65,000 into the Territorial Treasury last year. Instead of any public benefits derived therefrom or a decrease in the public debt, we find in addition to our bonded debt of \$38,000, on which fifteen per cent interest is paid semi annually, a debt of \$9,000 incurred since November 1st, 1897, and \$6,500 of an old indebtedness exhausted which the Auditor very modestly asks may also be bonded at 15 per cent interest. This is the way Democracy practices economy and it is with a vengeance. If Charity should begin at home, why not economy? When the Gazette has the nerve to demand retrenchment and reform in the Democratic administration of Montana, its advice to Congress will come with better grace, and having cleansed the Augean stables, its remaining tasks will be comparatively light.

We find in the Democrat the report of Mr. Orr, Chairman of the Judiciary Committee, that portion of the Governor's Message recommending the appointment of a commissioner of emigration. Its substance is, "We recommend that no law be passed creating the office of Commissioner of Immigration." The rest of it is a voluntary regarding "valleys about one mile above the level of the sea," which none of them are, and a pointless generalization about agriculture, stock, etc., which the Democrat thinks constitutes a "valuable document" and which, "if extensively circulated is calculated to do a great deal of good in the way of inducing immigration to Montana." Any man who could be induced to come to Montana by that report, wouldn't be of much service when he reached here. This, notwithstanding the Democrat has it set up in double-column measure, ready to be struck off when a resolution, pumped out by an editorial notice, authorizes a few thousand copies. The suggestion of Governor Tutts was an eminently good one, justified by good judgment and the experience of all prosperous Western States and Territories. The Report is its defeat. It is tame, ambiguous, contradictory and wishy washy, and would do discredit to its author, and the Territory if sent abroad. We believe the organization of a Bureau of Immigration for Montana, would be economy in its true sense, and in contemplation of the fact that it would be under the control of those differing from us in political faith, still esteemed it as a desirable and worthy object to be attained. If we were wrong or our legislators too narrow-minded to see in it the prosperity and cumulative wealth of the Territory, we abide the result. If a report from the Legislature is deemed sufficient, get up a respectable one.

IMMIGRATION.

The Cost of Various Wars—A compilation from the official record, regarding the Indian wars, shows the cost of the various wars of the last forty years to have been as follows: Black Hawk war 400 lives and \$5,000,000; Seminole war 1,500 lives and \$100,000,000; 1,500 Indians being warriors; a war with the Creeks and Cherokees, about the same time, cost \$1,000,000; the Sioux war of 1862, 300 lives and \$40,000,000; the war of 1864, 1,000 and \$60,000,000; the Cayenne war of 1867, 300 lives and about \$12,000,000. The Indian trouble on the Pacific Slope for the last twenty years cost about \$300,000,000; three campaigns against the Navajos \$30,000,000; the whole trouble in New Mexico, of which the last item forms a part, \$150,000,000. The members of the Peace Commission will meet in Washington in a short time and urge Congress to pass all measures necessary to carry out the policy it has adopted.

with something in it, and have Major Bruce print copies till his type is worn down to the second nick, but in the name of all that is allied to common sense, do not circulate that report anywhere outside of the Democrat.

The substance of voluminous foreign dispatches is that the Conference of European powers to consult on the status of affairs between Turkey, Greece and Crete, declined to extend the time of meeting as requested by the Sublime Porte and met in Paris on Saturday. He therefore telegraphed instructions to his Ambassador in Paris, and ordered him to withdraw from the Conference if it undertook to discuss the policy of Turkey further than the ultimatum to Greece. This order creates some solicitude for the peace of Europe. The mercantile Ionian islanders petition the Greek government against a war with Turkey, and pronounce the Cretan revolution the work of ambitious and turbulent men, and the Prime Minister of Russia calls on France to explain the conduct of her Minister at Constantinople. Spain is again reported on the eve of the long-deterred military revolution, and Hungary for the first time in a decade is expressing satisfaction with her situation. There is nothing very threatening in the situation except that it is nearly time for another great war on the continent.

MINERAL LANDS.—The following in reference to the jurisdiction of local land officers is now published for general information:

DEPT. INTERIOR, GENERAL LAND OFFICE, WASHINGTON, October 20, 1897. Sir: I have received your letter, dated 31st August last, in which you state that you are credibly informed that a portion of the land embraced in the President's proclamation, for sale at your office in February next, contain large mineral deposits; that you have no means of determining what is mineral land; that mines have been discovered since the surveys were made, etc., and you desire special instructions on the subject.

In making the surveys of the public lands the Surveyor General was directed not to sectionize or subdivide the mineral lands. This character of the lands was to be decided upon in this particular after careful inspection by the deputy making the survey; and where found to be mineral, none other than township lines were to be extended over them. It is possible, however, that in making the general surveys, many tracts of small extent, rich in mineral, may have escaped the notice of the surveyor and been inadvertently subdivided, and hence as in the case of which you include, the survey was completed before the mineral was discovered. It is, however, our duty, under all circumstances, as far as possible, to protect mineral lands from sale. Whenever, therefore, you have satisfactory reasons for believing that any sections or subdivisions of sections in any township embraced in the proclamation, are mineral lands, it will be your duty to withhold such tracts from sale; and it will be proper for you to receive proof and satisfy your self of the non-existence of mineral before offering them for sale, or permitting them to be selected or located. The term "mineral lands" in this connection, it is not to be understood as applying to all lands in which minerals may be found, but to those only which contain such quantities of the precious metals as to render mining remunerative, and to raise them in value above merely agricultural lands.

Very respectfully your obedient servant, THOMAS A. HENDERSON, To the Register of the United States Office, Marysville, California.

An exchange says that women's wants are: First, a husband; second, a fortune; third, a baby; fourth, a trip to Europe; fifth, a better looking dress than any of her neighbors; sixth, to be well flattered; seventh, to have nothing to do in particular; eighth, to be handsome; ninth, well thought of; tenth, to make a sensation; eleventh, to attend weddings; twelfth, to be always considered under thirty.

Probably the most contented postmaster in the world lives at Petropavlovsk, in Kamchatka. Only one regular mail is received there annually; sometimes the mail misses, as mails do everywhere, and then the postmaster has nothing to do for two whole years. The happy official enjoys a salary of three or four hundred rubles.

The disasters to vessels on our lakes during the past year exceed those of any previous year by 241. The following statement shows the aggregate number of disasters in the years named: In 1890, 377; 1891, 275; 1892, 300; 1893, 319; 1894, 379; 1895, 421; 1896, 621; 1897, 951; 1898, 1,297.

Theodore Tilton says, we have railroads, whose united lengths would span the globe and lap over it as it sits. If you do not include the New York and Erie, which has never been able to make both ends meet.