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The Bismarck Tribune.

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The Republican National Ticket. FOR PRESIDENT, RUTHERFORD B. HAYES. FOR VICE PRESIDENT, WILLIAM A. WHEELER.

NOTES AND NEWS.

Grasshoppers infest Alabama. Libby prison is now a smug grinding mill. The western counties of Iowa are devastated by grasshoppers. Lot. S. Bayless has been confirmed Receiver of Public Moneys at Yankton. The loss from the Brainerd fire is estimated at from \$15,000 to \$20,000. It is stated that over half the members of the Democratic party are greenbackers. Eight car loads of excursionists from Indiana, made a visit to Gov. Hayes last week. The population of Turkey in Musulmans 1,562,446; non-Musulmans 2,453,346. Women not counted. Story's evening paper has suspended. "Could not compete with the other dailies," nor the people wouldn't support it. Six hundred Icelanders passed through Duluth via the Northern Pacific and the Lakes en route for Manitoba last week. Hon. De Witt Littlejohn, in a letter to a friend says he cannot or will not support Tilden, but will vote for Hayes and Wheeler. Callerton, a convicted whisky ring gauger, of Chicago, has been pardoned by the President. "Let no guilty man escape." Next! A brother of Gov. Tilden is lying dangerously ill at his residence in New Lebanon. The Gov. has been summoned to his bedside. It is going the rounds of the press that Clara Louise Kellogg and James Gordon Bennett offer \$10,000 each towards the memorial monument to Custer. Davenport has a girl who delights in eating the sulphur end off of matches. She has been kept in jail to break her of the practice but without success. The latest—Our little Sammy had to die, because he ate too much crow pie, but as his little form we bury, we know he's crossed o'er Jordan's ferry. To a land where there's no dyin'ery. A party of about 50 thieving Indians made a raid on Milltown, county seat of Armstrong County, D. T., and ran off some 15 head of cattle. The citizens organized a party and pursued the thieves, recovering fourteen head. They appeared to be a band of hostiles from the Yellowstone.

Black Hills Gold.

The Omaha Herald vouches for the truthful character of Mr. Wm. B. Hugus, formerly a resident of that city, who wrote the following lines from Deadwood Black Hills, July 22: "The town is full of gold awaiting safe shipment. Last Sunday I saw \$75,000, the earnings of three men for two weeks. Another time \$40,000 was taken out of a claim less than a thousand yards from my store. Yesterday I saw twelve pounds of gold cleaned up from a run of twenty-four hours—five night and five day hands. Bettisford, one night last week, I saw clean up four and a half pounds of gold from one day's sluicing." There is no use in decrying the Black Hills so long as we have the record of such results of mining labor, apparently from good authority. Tens of thousands of people regard all dangers and hardships as unworthy a moment's thought, when compared with the possibility of acquiring gold sufficient to make them comfortable and independent for the remainder of their lives, and that, too, within a few years at furthest. —Pioneer-P. and T.

RENO.

A Petition for His Promotion. The following is a copy of a letter addressed by all the surviving members of the Seventh Regiment of Cavalry, who were engaged in the fight of June 25 and 26, to the President of the United States: CAMP NEAR BIG HORN OR YELLOWSTONE RIVER, July 4, 1876.—To His Excellency the President and the Honorable House of Representatives of the United States: GENTLEMEN: We, the enlisted men, the survivors of the battle on the heights of Little Horn River, on the 25th and 26th of June, 1876, of the Seventh Regiment of Cavalry, who subscribe our names to this petition, most earnestly solicit the President and Representatives of our country that the vacancies among the commissioned officers of our regiment made by the slaughter of our brave, heroic, and now lamented Lieutenant-Colonel, George A. Custer, and the other noble dead commissioned officers of our regiment who fell close by him on the bloody field, during the savage demons to the last, be filled by the officers of the regiment only. That Maj. M. A. Reno be our Lieutenant-Colonel, vice Custer killed; Capt. F. W. Benteen our Major, vice Reno promoted. The other vacancies to be filled by officers of the regiment by seniority. Your petitioners know this to be contrary to the established rule of promotion, but prayerfully solicit a deviation from the usual rule in this case, as it will be conferring a bravely-fought-for and a justly-merited promotion on officers who by their bravery, coolness, and decision on the 25th and 26th of June, 1876, saved the lives of every man now living of the Seventh Cavalry who participated in the battle, one of the most bloody on record, and one that would have ended with the loss of life of every officer and enlisted man on the field, only for the position taken by Maj. Reno, which he held with bitter tenacity against fearful odds to the end. To support this assertion—had our position been taken 100 yards back from the brink of the heights overlooking the river, we would have been entirely cut off from water and from behind those heights the Indian demons would have swarmed in hundreds, picking off our men by detail, and before midday June 25, not an officer or enlisted man of our regiment would have been left to tell of our dreadful fate, as we then would have been completely surrounded. The above was signed by 250 non-commissioned officers and privates.

BY TELEGRAPH.

Special dispatch to the Bismarck Tribune. RUMORED FIGHT. HELENA, M. T. Aug. 15.—The Independent special of the 12th, says that a Sioux squaw who came into the Crow camps reports a TERRIBLE BATTLE, and that Crook has nearly annihilated the Sioux and has the remainder in such a position as to FORCE THEIR SURRENDER. Parties from the Crow agency bring the news. It may be greatly exaggerated if not entirely false.

LATER.

Official telegrams from Fort Laramie to-day say the reports of Gen. Crook's fight with Sitting Bull are CONFIRMED.

through Indians coming into Spotted Tail agency. They report a HEAVY ENGAGEMENT, and the defeat of the Indians with great loss and Sitting Bull wounded.

St. PAUL, Aug. 15.—Congress this evening is endeavoring to close the business of the session and adjourn with barely a quorum of the House present. The House refused to concur in the Senate amendment to the House bill authorizing five thousand volunteers for the Sioux War. Mr. Banning explained that the Senate amendment provided for the increase of the regular cavalry regiments to one hundred men to the company, and asserted that the existing law already authorized the increase. He said the men were needed immediately and could be had as volunteers from frontiersmen already trained to Indian warfare.

From Montana and Fort Laramie come rumors of an Indian battle. The first says Crook whipped the Indians, wounding Sitting Bull, and the other that Crook fought Sitting Bull and almost annihilated the main body of the hostiles. The latter comes from both sources. Sherman hopes the rumor is true.

The President has signed the last of the appropriation bills. The Senate confirmed Clapp as public printer.

Rev. E. P. Smith, ex-commissioner of Indian affairs died on the west coast of Africa the latter part of June. Speaker Kerr is reported dying at Alum Springs, Va., to-day.

St. PAUL, Aug. 16.—Congressional session closed last evening. Grant goes to Long Branch Friday.

The cavalry bill finally passed as amended by the Senate, providing, instead of volunteers, for filling regular companies. The Territorial bill had not reached the House.

CROOK.

News from Crook to the 10th says he would probably meet the Indians by Friday or Saturday, and was well down on the Tongue river. Lieut.-Col. Elmer Otis is here on his way to join the 7th Cavalry.

At 2 o'clock this afternoon Speaker Kerr's condition was unchanged. His family and himself have abandoned all hopes of his recovery.

Indian stories of the late fight with Sitting Bull are discredited to-day at Sherman's headquarters.

The Jim River Advocate says the people of Jim River are unanimous for Kidder. It is well.

Lincoln County Republicans will meet on the 19th of August to choose their delegates to the Territorial Convention. The News says "there are none but Kidder men in the county, so to speak."

The Pioneer-Press urges that the Sioux tribes should be colonized in Maine where there is an abundance of game, and where they can receive the Boston papers every evening. Besides Wendell Phillips could visit them occasionally, and it would make their hearts good to see the old philanthropist, and rejoice with him over the massacre of our frontier people.

THE DECISION.

The decision of the Secretary of the Interior in relation to the Bismarck Townsite has been received, and instead of rumors we now have facts through the local office. The corporate authorities are awarded the NW 1/4 and the W 1/2 of the NE 1/4 of Sec. 4 T 138, R 80, amounting to 239 94-100 acres, subject to the right of way of the Northern Pacific Railroad. The E 1/2 of the NE 1/4 of the same section is awarded to Erastus A.

Williams; the SW 1/4 of Sec. 32, T. 139, R. 80 to John J. Jackman, subject to contest by John W. O'Neal, who has filed a Soldier's Additional Homestead on the same tract.

The S 1/2 of the SE 1/4 of Sec. 32 T 138 R 80 is awarded to Dennis Hannafin.

The filings of the several persons named upon the land in contest have been canceled by order of the Secretary: John A. Mason, Samuel Bitting, Wilson J. Crow, Charles Anderson, Louisa Clay, Jno. W. Proctor, Alex. McKenzie, Michael Tippie, Geo. A. Joy, John S. Mann.

GEN. TERRY'S ARMY.

General Terry has completely reorganized his little army on the Yellowstone. Gen. Miles' battalion of the 5th Infantry, Col. Moore's battalion 6th Infantry, Col. Otis' battalion 22d Infantry, and Maj. Freeman's battalion 7th Infantry, are formed into a brigade under General John Gibbon. Col. M. A. Reno succeeds Gen. Custer in command of the 7th Cavalry. Gen. James Brisbin succeeds the dead Custer as Gen. Terry's chief of Cavalry, but he will retain the immediate command of his column, 2d U. S. Cavalry. Lieut.-Colonel Low is appointed chief of artillery, and Lieut. Bradley retains his position as chief of scouts. The cavalry, artillery and scouts report directly to General Terry, and the Infantry will act under the immediate orders of Gen. Gibbon. The army marched from its supply depot at the mouth of the Rosebud with forty days rations, Aug. 8, and expected to reach the vicinity of the Sioux camps in ten days. Over two hundred Crow and Ree Indian warriors accompany the expedition as scouts. The Supply Depot at the mouth of Rosebud will be kept up and the steamer Far West remains there for the present.

Black Hills Notes.

Joseph Pennell, Chas. Thompson, the Kittridge Brothers, Henry Dion, Julius Hewes and about twenty others arrived from the Black Hills, eight days out from Crook City, yesterday. The train left the Hills on the 7th. When in camp the first night about 1 a. m., they were alarmed by Mr. Brackett who was on guard, and notified that the Indians were in the vicinity, and about this time the Indians turned loose on the boys a fearful volley of leaden hail, evidently intended to at least stampede the stock. Frank Fague, a Minnesota boy, was severely wounded in the foot at the first fire. The fire was kept up for some minutes, when they made a dash for the stock and stampeded a team belonging to Chas. Thompson, but the horses were afterwards recovered. The Indians were driven off, however, and did not make their appearance again until about sunrise, when they again fired a few shots, but soon gave up their attempt to surround the party, but continued to harass them for some time. At the crossing of the Moreau, on the evening of the 9th, the party came upon an ox team and wagon and two men belonging to a Montana party who had driven all night in an effort to overtake the main party who had gone ahead. They camped at the Moreau about 4 a. m., and while engaged in preparing their breakfast, three Indians came upon them and pretending to be friendly the boys admitted them to their camp. Presently two others made their appearance and laying down their guns some distance off were admitted to camp. Two others with rifles and mounted approached, when things began to look serious, and Jos Russell, one of the party, objected and ordered the Indians to leave, particularly as they had been insolent in their demands for gifts. Rose and Muggins prepared for a fight by forming a barricade. W. N. Phelps advanced to the knoll for observations, when the Indians fired upon him and killed him. Rose and Muggins stood the party off until late in the afternoon when, fortunately, Pennell's party arrived and relieved them from their unpleasant position and they returned to Bismarck with them. Phelps was of the Travis mining district, Montana. His body was buried about two miles this side of the Moreau. The Indians were dressed in army blue and were evidently from the hostiles, and were traveling in the direction of the Cheyenne Agency. They numbered about fifty and had a large number of horses with them. The boys had no further trouble with the Indians after

this skirmish though they were frequently in sight.

A Black Hills exploring party of fifty enroute to the Big Horn had a hard fight with Indians about fifty miles east of the Clear Fork of Powder River about the 10th of July in which they lost seven men killed and sixteen wounded, and lost all of their horses.

Wild Bill, alias Jim Haycock was recently killed at Deadwood by a young man by the name of Cole whose brother was killed by him in Kansas a few years ago. Cole had followed him many months and at last found his opportunity. The affray occurred at the "Cricket," and the ball which Cole put through Bill's head also passed through the arm of Capt. Wm. Massie, a well known river man. Cole was tried by a miners' jury and acquitted, Col. May prosecuting and Mr. Miller defending.

Rus Marsh is running a first-class hotel in Deadwood and is making money. He sends in for Mrs. Marsh but she prefers to stay with the Capitol for a time yet.

Hubert Smith has opened out a mercantile establishment at Spearfish and is doing well.

There is a big stampede from Deadwood to Bear Lodge region about forty miles west of Deadwood where Jenney made a discovery of rich gold.

Black Hills quartz leads are promising. The Crook City Tribune of the 20th ult, gives an account of six leads which an assay proves to be very rich.

Provisions in the hills are reported abundant and very low, in fact there is a big overstock. Labor is high and yet there are hundreds of idle men. New and rich discoveries are constantly being made.

Those in the Hills do not anticipate trouble with the Indians and are confident they can clean out the entire Sioux nation should they make a raid on them. There are at least ten thousand miners in the Deadwood region.

PERSONAL.

Chas. Stanton, alias "Shang," and associates are in the city.

W. H. Stimpson went east Thursday morning—gone to meet Susie! Col. Wilson returned from his trip up the Yellowstone, on the Key West, last Thursday.

O. F. Goff and wife returned from Fort Rice Thursday. He will hereafter be found at Lincoln.

C. W. Freede and bride returned on Tuesday evening and left for their home at Standing Rock Saturday.

C. W. Savage, of Fargo, passed through town last week. He goes up the Yellowstone.

The voice of John White may again be heard on the streets. Mr. White has been for some time at Hot Springs, Arkansas, having gone on account of ill health. He returned entirely recovered. Mr. Knapp, Q.M. Clerk at Fort Rice, was in town Saturday. All the inducements of King Helhi could not persuade him to part with those flowing locks of which he is the happy possessor.

Lt. H. T. Reed, of Fort Rice, is attending court martial duty at Fort Lincoln.

J. Delcater, one of Bismarck's rising lawyers, returned last from a six week's visit among friends in the east. If you want to know anything about the Centennial, ask Del.

Mayor McLean returned Saturday evening from his trip below.

Lt. Roach, 17th Infantry, came up on the Yellowstone from Standing Rock, accompanying his family this far east. Mrs. Roach left for her home, Syracuse, N. Y., Monday, the Lieutenant returning to his post in company with Gen. Carlin Lt. Rogers and the 17th Infantry band.

J. S. Winston came down from Stevenson Monday to see how Bismarck prospered.

"Texas Jack," from Texas, came up to join Terry's expedition as a scout.

Geo. Bosworth, well known in this city is among the Montana boys who came down on the Benton en route to the Black Hills.

D. A. Corey, of Steele & Price, Chicago, St. Louis and Cincinnati, D. F. McCarthy of Miner & McCarthy, St. Paul, and Major Hazelhurst, of Ft. Abercrombie, are in the city.

Gen. Sanborn and D. M. Robins of St. Paul, and J. J. Jackman arrived Tuesday evening. Gen. Sanborn is attorney for Messrs Hackett and others in the town-site case.

R. C. Mitchell, of the Duluth Tribune, and Rev. J. Mitchell, of Indianapolis with their wives and children looked Bismarck over last evening. Asa Fisher has returned from the Centennial.

Seven companies of Infantry from Texas, intended to garrison the agencies on the Missouri River, have arrived at Yankton.

Dennis Hannafin has proved up on the Crow eighty and the city may now enter the Hackett claim and the east half of the Proctor claim at any time. The entry will probably be made this week.

ORGANIZATION OF THE TERRITORY OF PEBRINA.

Speech of Hon. Jefferson F. Kidder, of Dakota, in the House of Representatives, Saturday, July 29, 1876.

The House having under consideration the bill (H. R. No. 357) to establish the Territory of Pebrina, and to provide a temporary government therefor—

Mr. KIDDER said: Mr. SPEAKER: Never in the history of this Government has the attention of the people been so profoundly awakened to the interests of its frontiers. The terrible news from the Black Hills country, the slaughter of a major-general, five colonels, twenty-two commissioned officers, and over three hundred gallant soldiers, has almost stopped pulsation in the American heart. Historians will pause in the writing of this epoch in our history and tremble as they attempt to record the horrible story. *Fiat justitia cælum ruat.* It is at this eventful period of our national history that I now ask the earnest consideration of Congress to this bill. A bill for this purpose has been before Congress five years, and it has been reported favorably by the Senate Committee on Territories three times. The consideration of this bill at this moment presents an opportunity not to be neglected by one careful of the welfare of his country and mindful of the perpetuity of republican institutions.

Encroachments on the outposts are always vigilantly repulsed by the skillful commander, and are no less the study of a thoughtful statesman. Had wise warnings from distinguished Senators and Representatives from our West been heeded, the disasters of this day, bringing shame burning to the cheek of each member of this Republic, would not have occurred. Instead of prairies running to waste, great Territories would be in existence, and in place of scalping savages, a brotherhood of Americans.

It is said that some unknown hand many years ago carved on a rock at Plymouth near where the Pilgrims landed the lines: The eastern nations fade, their glory ends, And empire rises where the sun descends. The sentiment was but a paraphrase of Bishop Berkeley's lines which have been quoted so often as to become hackneyed: Westward the course of empire takes its way. The gift of prophecy is given to few among mortals, and it is doubtful if the good bishop or the unknown carver on the granite cliff realized the truth of the idea. We at this latter day, standing in the centennial year of the great Republic, may feel its force, but not realize the power that this nation shall possess when the vast area west of the Mississippi shall be thronged by the multitudes which its fertile soil and mighty stores of the precious metals have "awaited through the centuries."

The founders of the Republic dreamed not of the brilliant future that awaited their descendants. When Boston was first laid out commissioners were appointed, so say the records, to make a road to the West. In due time they reported that they had marked out a road westward six miles, which was as far "as ever would be required."

Even in 1803, when the purchase of the great territory of Louisiana was under discussion, the territory which then stretched from the Mississippi to the Pacific Ocean, the statesmen of the infant Republic seem to have been in doubt whether the lands beyond the Mississippi would ever be of value to us. Those who read the debates in Congress on that point will find that it was asserted on this floor that our settlements would not extend beyond the Mississippi River in perhaps five hundred years.

Our political history is most beautifully illustrated by the following facts: ORGANIZATION OF TERRITORIES. The territory of the United States, outside of the portion occupied by the original thirteen States, consisted in 1787 of "territory northwest of the river Ohio," which extended west to the Mississippi; in 1790, of the above and "territory south of the river Ohio;" in 1798 and to 1812, besides the above, the "Mississippi Territory;" in 1803, besides the above, the "Province of Louisiana;" (which extended from the Gulf of Mexico and the Mississippi River to the Pacific Ocean in the Northwest); in 1818, besides the above, the "Spanish cession," (Florida); in 1848, besides the above, the several "Mexican cessions;" (extending west to the Pacific;) and in 1853, in addition, the "Gadsden purchase," south of the last before named. These, with Alaska, purchased of Russia in 1867, were never organized, with governments, but from time to time territorial or State forms were given to portions of them.

Indiana, formed as a Territory from the territory northwest of the Ohio, act of May 7, 1800.

By act of March 26, 1804, the "Province of Louisiana" was divided into the "Territory of Orleans" and the "District of Louisiana." The government of the latter was committed to the officers of the Territory of Indiana. By act of March 3, 1805, the District of Louisiana was organized as the Territory of Louisiana; and by act of June 4, 1812, the same was reorganized as the Territory of Missouri. Michigan, by act of January 11, 1805, was formed as a Territory from the Territory of Indiana.