

LIBEL OR INDICTMENT?

Blanketing Investigations by the Grand Jury.

The jury report which we publish to-day is in some respects a remarkable document of its class.

Some of its findings we know to be true, and some of its recommendations certainly deserve attention.

The necessity for a new court house and a larger jail are matters of common notoriety. So, too, it is a very general and well-founded opinion that our county poor-house is not suitable for size or situation.

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Poor Farm and report the condition of the inmates, which report is herewith submitted:

The committee of physicians, consisting of Drs. Atchison, Bullard and Leiser, appointed to visit the County Hospital and report the condition of the inmates, submitted the following:

First—That the several inmates of the County Hospital do not in all cases offer a satisfactory report as regards history, progress, and tendency of their disease.

In the case of Johnson, recovering from erysipelas, the non-supply of medicine was a dangerous proceeding on the part of the county physician, and the clandestine continuation of former treatments was an act in the highest degree important to the safety of the patient.

In the case of O. F. Ricord, who was discharged by the physician in charge, and immediately readmitted by the county commissioners, the rapid recovery of his eyes and their subsequent usefulness depends upon a much more active and positive treatment than the patient, complaining at present of being without treatment, seems to have had in the past.

That in the case of Timothy Haley, with a sore leg—peritonitis—the simple application of an inoffensive saline is not tending to cure the patient and thereby to relieve the county of an unwilling pauper.

In the cases of Mrs. Turley and others the patients' own histories are a series of complaints that the committee sympathize with, and without positive evidence to offer we do suggest these patients may have cause for complaints.

Second—That the county physician seems to be at fault in furnishing the requisite medical and surgical skill demanded by the miscellaneous and serious cases of diseases and accidents that call for treatment at the county farm; and that in consequence of the long, slow recovery of patients, with the additional expense attending such extra long confinement, is a small share only of grievance taken in part with their suffering and death.

Third—That the administration of medicine appears to be exercised with a more strict regard for economy on the part of the party furnishing the medicine than with a view to its effect in relieving the suffering of patients; and that the requisite amount necessary for the accomplishment of good in some cases is very plainly wanting, while the kind and quality in others is far short of the demand.

The person named in the report by the physicians, Reiker Lerida, we are informed, has since died.

We have given proper consideration to matters and complaints bearing on the police administration of the City of Helena, and from the evidence brought before us, are of the opinion that careless and illegal arrests have been common, and that the high fees allowed to officials for each arrest and conviction is a powerful incentive to abuse of police powers.

We are also of the opinion that the custom, regulation or law (if there is any such) which allows a friend acquaintance or other party to act as attorney to plead guilty for an arrested party has been oppressive and corruptly used, particularly in cases where the police were in possession of funds taken from or given up by the accused when arrested.

The evidence of the common perpetration of the irregularities upon which we now report derives great strength in our opinion from its cumulative character, which does not leave us in any doubt that many of the charges brought before us are substantially true, though of course, the evidence in any one case taken by itself cannot be so strong as the cumulative evidence. We deem it best, as most likely to lead to effectual or summary amendment to report to the court our conviction as to the existence of gross irregularities and abuse of these powers.

The Jury find further that the City Marshal and some of his subordinates have illegally and fraudulently issued certificates for the measurement of wood without seeing or measuring the same.

We desire further to say that in the opinion of the Grand Jury there is a vicious practice growing up in the inferior courts in this county acting as committing magistrates with reference to holding persons to answer to the action of the Grand Jury for the most trivial offenses, and many cases upon insufficient evidence.

We further condemn the action of such courts in failing to bind over the material witnesses in important criminal cases which too often result in an entire failure of justice and the escape of persons charged with the most serious crimes.

WM. B. HUNDELY, Foreman Grand Jury.

Geyser of the Yellowstone.

[Engineering Journal.]

A report has been published on the thermal springs and geysers of the Yellowstone district, which is attracting so much attention through the opening of the Northern Pacific, Railway, and President Arthur's visit in person to the remarkable region.

It is the opinion of this Grand Jury that the inadequate medical treatment of the county poor is largely attributable to the custom (not in conformity with law) regulating the same, which provides that the County Commissioners enter into a contract with the lowest bidder for their medical treatment, and from investigation it leads us to believe that the amount paid to the county physician is insufficient to provide proper quantities of medicine alone.

PAPER FROM DR. CLARK.

Answer to the Grand Jury and Physicians' Report.

The time has come when silence ceases to be a virtue. So much has been said, not only about my public practice, but my private, that I consider it time to speak, and in such a way that all may understand. Let it be distinctly understood that I am practicing medicine by authority of law. I graduated at Dartmouth College in 1861, and the same year received a commission as first assistant surgeon of the Union army, which position I held for three years and four months. In 1863 I received a degree from a homeopathic college in East Boston. In 1879 I received a diploma in San Francisco. Diplomats can be seen at any time. The success of my practice is a guarantee of my ability. I have been a resident of Helena for twenty-two months, and have treated over twelve hundred; two hundred and thirteen have been surgical cases, and all of these four only have died.

My answer to the report of the grand jury as regards the report on the County Physician is, that I consider it malicious and libelous, and that they were meddling with something that was none of their business, especially in sending physicians there, and they (the physicians) know they violated the medical code in going.

In answer to the physicians' report: It is no more than I expected, coming from the source it did, and in fact not half as bad as I expected. It is all false, as the accompanying article shows. I propose to discuss these particular cases a little, not because it is necessary, for, as I said before, the following article shows it all to be false:

In the case of Reiker Lerida, all will remember that he was the man who fell into the prospect hole on the 13th day of February and there remained until February 23rd—ten days. He never rallied from the shock—never was able to help himself. One of the patients took care of him. It was the hospital manager's business to see that he was taken care of. There is a time for amputation in frost-bite, and that is when the line of demarcation forms. In this case that time never came. To amputate at any time would have been severe death.

In the case of Johnson, if I was correctly informed, instead of erysipelas he had a malignant corpuscle. When I first saw the case the limb was not healed. The knee was flexed (very crooked) and he could not walk. His sore is healed, his limb is straight, and he walks quite well. He will be able to leave in a short time. I never knew what the former treatment was and did not care. I presume the former physician did not tell them that the leg for a long time was full of maggots and they had to scrape them out, a pint at a time.

In the case of O. F. Ricord: He was in the hospital for frozen feet; came in some time before I was placed in charge. No amputation had been performed. Soon after I amputated four toes. They were nearly well—so much so that I should have discharged him in a few days. He came to town without my leave, and I was informed by the manager that he staid out all night, and soon after his eyes commenced to trouble him. I immediately commenced to treat his eyes, and again he came up town, and this time I reported him as having left the hospital. The next day he went to the county commissioners, and they would not readmit him without I said so. He came to me and apologized, and I gave him an order to go back. He has been getting along as well as I could expect under the circumstances. I mean by this other parties administering something that I knew nothing about.

Timothy Haley is not there for peritonitis. His trouble is rheumatism, and for such has made application for pension.

Why did not the physicians investigate and report the case of Clondy Kraft, who had his shoulder dislocated, and had been in the hospital six weeks before I was in charge, and no attempts made to reduce the dislocation? A man crippled for life, arm almost useless. Censure to whom censure belongs.

In the cases of Mrs. Turley and others the accompanying article shows clearly that the complaints are not against the County Physician. Trusting that these facts and discussions may be satisfactory and that criticism may be placed where it belongs, I am yours,

R. F. CLARK, M. D., County Physician.

HELENA, M. T., March, 24, 1884.

To whom it may concern:

We, the undersigned patients of the County Hospital, have been treated by R. F. Clark, M. D., and are perfectly satisfied and believe all has been done that could be done. We have always had medicine, to be used internally and externally. In the case of J. Lerida we believe Dr. Clark gave him all the treatment that was necessary and attended him very closely.

M. J. Dawson, W. E. Kelley, Tenny M. Turley, Harvey F. Holden, Nelson Storms, Willie A. Lackey, A. F. Ricord, C. N. Alden, P. Johnson, John French, Timothy Haley, W. H. Grant.

We deem it best, as most likely to lead to effectual or summary amendment, to report to the court our conviction as to the existence of gross irregularities and abuse of these powers.—Grand Jury Report.

It is not the elegant style as much as the sentiment of the foregoing extract to which we desire to call attention. This is not the judge addressing the grand jury, as a careless reader might naturally think, but the jury addressing the judge and apparently for the purpose of securing "effectual or summary amendment" of the irregularities of a "cumulative" sort, complained of. Did the jury think Judge Wade was going to leave the bench and strip off his coat and pitch into the City Marshal? What was the judge to do with this important information? Is it the judge or jury that finds indictments? The "cumulative" suspicions of the public are to the effect that the jury thought they were the judge about that time.

THE PULPIT.

Sunday Morning Discourse at the Congregational Church.

The pastor, Rev. Rufus B. Tobey, preached an able discourse at the Congregational church, Benton avenue, yesterday morning. The sermon was preceded by the usual five minutes talk to the children, the thought developed being that of life as a battle-field, where all mankind are divided as soldiers of Christ or soldiers of Satan. Death terminates the service, and since Christ alone has vanquished death, they only can wear the victor's crown in the hereafter who have served under Jesus. The victory over sin is the victory over death; while to work in behalf of sin is to expend one's life forces in the service of a master who can avail nothing when the grim messenger comes.

The subject of the sermon was: "Some thoughts about the end of life." The text was the 8th verse of the 8th chapter of Ecclesiastes. "There is no man that hath power over the spirit to retain the spirit; neither hath he power in the day of death; and there is no discharge in that war; neither shall wickedness deliver them that are given to it." A wonderful invention is the Claude Lorraine glass, which has the power of concentrating upon a small surface a wide extent of scenery. It reflects not only light and shade and colors, but also the movements of objects. It is the mirror held up to nature. The book of Ecclesiastes serves a similar purpose in the realm of human experience. Leaving the rest of its lessons we come to the truth to-night by the text. The statement of the first half is axiomatic, and is well illustrated in history. The conquerors of the world could not overcome the final enemy. At the last they, too, were forced to surrender. Alexander the Great was first led captive by drink, and then paid the debt of nature. Caesar conquered a greater world than he, but even Caesar had not power over the breath of life to retain it. In Marc Anthony's oration he says: "But yesterday and the name of Caesar might have stood against the world. Now lies he there and none so poor to do him reverence." Two leaders in philosophy defied the Almighty during life, but at last confessed their utter helplessness. Voltaire was one; the other was Hobbes, who said, "If I had the whole world to dispose of, I would give it to live one day."

The Levitical law had ascension providing for the conscription of all able bodied males from twenty years old and upwards. Solomon, looking upon life as a struggle for existence, and the conflict with death a hard hand contest, as it were, assures his readers that there is no discharge in this war. The conscript might gain exemption from service for several reasons; but every man must at some time meet death. The wise man's absolute assertion was calculated to arouse his readers from their indifference and compel each to acknowledge to himself that "It is appointed unto man once to die."

"Neither shall wickedness deliver those that are given to it." Was ever a man foolish enough to think the tempter could at the last save him from punishment? It would seem so when we look at him who rides rough-shod over virtue and honesty on his way to wealth and pleasure. If his actions are indicative of anything they seem to say that he has made a covenant with the evil one. The prophet Isaiah quotes such a sentiment as coming from some, and replies to it: "Thus saith the Lord: Judgment will I lay to the line and righteousness to the plummet. Your agreement with hell shall not stand. When the overflowing scourge shall pass through them ye shall be trodden down by it."

This fearful retribution can be summed up in the words: "Neither shall wickedness deliver those that are given to it." The final triumph of right over wrong is assured. Meanwhile, in the struggle of the two opposing forces, do not lose sight of the omnipotence of God. The power which has overcome the world's conqueror's Christ has vanquished Benjamin West's masterpiece of allegorical painting, "Death on the Pale Horse," apart from the artist's suggestions, is just as atheism would depict the death struggle. The impotency of the bravest is seen as we behold prostrate upon the ground kings of the earth writhing in the agony of their fatal wounds. But as in the legion of Christophers the devil trembled at the mention of Christ, thus attesting the power of our Lord. So we know that the rider on the pale charger will be unhorsed and made captive by the Captain of our salvation. The eye of faith, looking upon the canvass, can see the omnipotence which not only takes away the sting of death, but finally abolishes it. The conclusion of the whole matter, as Solomon puts it, is, "Fear God and keep his commandments."

Good Stock Pays.

[River Press.]

This assertion is fully illustrated by the experience of Messrs Milner & Boardman, of the Shonkin. Four years ago they bought their thoroughbred cow, Rena, from the East, and since that time she has dropped five calves and her offspring three, with three more to come before midsummer, making, counting the latter, eleven head of thoroughbreds from that one animal in four years. Counting the increase alone, without reference to the milk and butter product, the interest on the original investment will run up into big figures. Among the progeny of this fruitful animal is the Duke of Shonkin, now almost a year old, that promises to be a fine animal. He is marvelous for size and beauty and bids fair to carry off some prizes at the first Choteau county fair.

NEARLY four months Congress has been in session and the Democrats in control of the popular branch of Congress, and not one single measure of any importance has been given to the country. The only thing on which it has shown anything like hearty co-operation is the vindication of that half-hearted and wholly useless patriot, Fitz John Porter. On the tariff, the only live, national issue, the great historic Democratic party was never less harmonious than at present.

HELENA IMPROVEMENTS.

The first reasonable weather for outdoor work has started the several branches of builders in good earnest. And it is remarkable to see the progress made in a few bright days. Already the brick-layer's trowel is heard to ring on the morning air, while busy carpenters are heard in all parts of the city. The brick work on the front of Albert Fisher's new building is progressing rapidly by nimble fingers, with Stephen Whalen as contractor, assisted by H. S. Horton. This large building is nearly finished inside, the floors, lathing, flues, stairs, etc., being completed. The extension on three sides will be successfully finished and will contain a number of handsome double parlors and chambers.

Workmen are hammering away on Llesner's new building, south side of Bridge which will also have a brick front and stucco sides and rear. This building is also nearly finished inside, with parlors, suits of rooms and chambers, and when completed will show one of the handsomest fronts on that side of the street.

Coming further down this avenue of refreshing memory and early incidents we witness active work upon the new structure now being thrown across Bridge street connecting the International Hotel with its new annex, now under construction, three stories high, with 44 rooms and parlors. From the span that is being constructed across from house to house, unlike the "Rialto" at Venice, which spans a canal, it seems that the name is to be emphasized practically by perpetuating a "bridge of size" and dimensions that for beauty and model may not be a joy forever, but will be a reminder that this is a bridge and this is Bridge street.

The structure will be an expensive piece of workmanship and very substantial, is intended not to be an obstruction, for it is built upon abutments on either side of the street fifty-eight feet apart, and high enough to afford a passageway under it of over 16 feet. The distance from hotel to hotel is 78 feet, thus affording a real width of street 10 feet wider than the survey of the balance of Bridge street to Rodney. The annex will be a large addition to the International, affording 44 additional rooms and parlors with two handsome store-rooms on the first floor.

Ketchum, Zastrow & Co. have added to their shop a steam boiler and engine, with a planer and saws for all kinds of building frames, etc. Every where throughout the city rapid work is going on in the construction of new buildings and improvements. That of the Marquis de Mores, a refrigerator building for meat packing, is going up rapidly under contract by Shaffer & Welter. A few more days of bright sunshine will witness the commencement of many buildings that have been in prospect since the beginning of winter.

The bustle and stir on lower Main street show an activity in building that promises great results before the summer is over. A HERALD reporter was shown this morning plans in the office of Shaffer & Welter for several fine brick buildings which are under contract to be built by this enterprising firm with all possible dispatch. The plans are all from the hands of J. D. Welter, a skillful draftsman, and the junior member of the firm of Shaffer & Welter. The principal building is for Sanford & Evans, to be a brick structure for two stores—62 feet front by 100 deep, which is to be erected on the west side of Main street, adjoining the Ashby block.

Another business house under contract with Shaffer & Welter is that of a large brick store for John B. Wilson and Henry Yergy, on the west side of Main and opposite the junction of Grand street. This is to be a three-story brick, the first floor and basement to be occupied by Henry Yergy as a hardware store. Adjoining this Mr. John B. Wilson will erect two additional stories of brick upon the walls of the Paynter, Brown & Weisenbach block.

Shaffer & Welter exhibited the plans for an additional story upon the Berkenfeld block, with an iron front and plate glass. Also the plans for a two-story brick dwelling for Owen Evans on Rodney street, which when constructed will be one of the finest residences on that street.

In a week more, with good weather, a marked improvement will be noticed in the erection of buildings and preparations for others in all parts of the city, and especially on lower Main street.

Down the Yellowstone.

[Glendive Times.]

Cavanaugh, of the Payette Stock Company, was in the city Wednesday and Thursday. He says that he is confident his loss will not exceed 5 per cent, even if it reaches that figure. He claims to have been riding over the ranges since spring opened and knows whereof he speaks.

Major Wyman states that he has a large lot of men watching the Big Horn bridge, awaiting the break-up of that stream. As a precautionary measure he has a number of freight cars loaded with rock which will be run upon the structure as soon as the ice starts to weigh the bridge down and keep it firm.

C. H. Loud, of the firm of Sanborn & Loud, cattle growers on Pumpkin creek, arrived in the city yesterday, and is stopping at the Inter-Ocean. Mr. Loud will start for Nebraska to-day, going across the country with team and wagon. He will head of 2,500 head of cattle from Nebraska early in the summer.

Surveyors are at work laying off a town at Beaver. This place is destined in the near future to be quite a thriving little burg, and as the country settles up the Beaver Valley will of itself support a good town.

The young men are out daily playing ball. A club will be organized this summer, and from the timber we have it ought to be able to down anything in the country. J. J. O'Brien is hostile this week, and justly, too. He purchased three carloads of sawdust at the New York mills, Minn., costing him \$6 per car, loaded, making a total of \$18. The freight on this amount was \$408.35.

Spring has come in good earnest. A glorious, incomparable spring, such as the Yellowstone valley seems to have a patent on. Let her come.

The Rev. Mr. Stites, formerly pastor of the Presbyterian Church of Helena, lately preached a sermon in Muncie, Pa., which so highly pleased the congregation that they unanimously elected him their pastor.

THE TRIALS OF A DEPUTY U. S. MARSHAL.

In a Northern Blizzard—One Horse Drowned and Other Mishaps.

More than two weeks ago Deputy U. S. Marshal Wm. A. Rumsey, equipped with the nerve for a winter journey of over 200 miles, two horses and a light wagon, started for the Blackfeet Agency to bring in two South-Peigan Indians as witnesses for the United States against Turner for selling whisky on the Indian reservation. A journey undertaken at this season of the year into that country of the far north, where snow abounds and where trails and snow tracks are marked by the wandering buffalo and the Indian hunter, is only made on rare occasions and by the stalwart pioneer who "has been there before." The adventurous Deputy started from Helena on the 4th of March, following the Benton road as far as Sun River crossing. But before getting there, in crossing Flat creek, his outfit broke through the ice and became submerged, with wagon and horses all in a heap. After some time in trying to extricate the half frozen beasts by cutting the harness and getting things loose, it was discovered that one horse was dead and sunk out of sight. This predicament was trying indeed, with not one-fourth of the journey accomplished, and only one horse left to make the trip. The situation was taken in a glance, and the intrepid pioneer was soon on the road again with a new horse and undaunted spirit, though considerably cooled by the encounter with the chilly waters of Flat creek. Arriving at Sun River all right he started out for the north, taking the lonesome prairie trail which leads to the Old Agency and the Blackfeet nation. From day to day and on he went, over the boundless snow-clad prairie, which reflected the rays of a March sun with blinding rigor. No living creature or object was to be seen on or near the trail, except as the welcome vision of a stage station loomed upon the white horizon, or the deceptive mirage, which painted upon the mirrored mist the phantom ranch or the mirrored shelter. The Old Agency was passed on the sixth day, and then the Teton, with no incident to break the quiet monotony until arriving at the Muddy, where a fearful blizzard from the north came down with a blinding fury of snow and wind.

The hospitable home of Stephen Bynum here detained the weary traveler until he was rested, and New Agency was the next welcome sight and his final destination. Here the two Indian witnesses and a half-breed interpreter were soon obtained and mounted in the little vehicle and brought to Helena, arriving yesterday with the enterprising officer without further incident than a slow jaunt over heavy roads and a record of sixteen days time.

From a trip of this kind, successfully made at this season, it is pretty certain that Billy don't know of the Blackfeet trail any north knowing; and he knows, too, the effects of snow-blind and the peeling process when once again "in out of the wet," and he knows, too—well, his nose speaks for itself.

Over the Range.

[New Northwest.]

When Gamble was taken away from the penitentiary he cried like a child. He seemed to realize that the future had for him no hope. The result of the Jones-Hill escapade will make would-be road agents think twice before holding up a carrier of the U. S. Mails.

The remains of Frank Ritz, who dropped dead suddenly at Pioneer, Thursday, last week, were brought to deer Lodge Saturday and buried in the cemetery. Messrs. John McClelland, Wm. Landon, M. Sullivan, Wm. Brent, John Leighton, Henry Molke, J. K. Uhl and F. Garsey accompanied the body, and gave it Christian burial.

Superintendents Doodridge and St. Clair returned to Garrison Monday after an inspection of the road. The track is in fair condition and cannot be improved much until the frost gets out. The company will begin the erection of buildings and construction of the yard at Garrison in a week or ten days if the weather continues good.

In talking with Mr. Hugh Whitecraft, of Warm Springs, a few days since, he informed us that in every instance he knew of in this valley, the Northern Pacific Company had kept faith with the actual settlers in letting each of them have 160 acres, on which they had settled and for which they had filed applications under the 1879 resolution, at the stated price—\$2.60 per acre. We are glad to learn that such is the case, and cheerfully accord Agent Stone and the company the credit due.

About a week since a couple of men at the Forks of the Musselshell stopped the eastern bound coach for the purpose of transferring a passenger on board, with whom they had had a difficulty the day before, but the driver drew his revolver and ordered them to let go his horses' bridles, which they did in short order.

E. C. Hill found 300 head of sheep that strayed from Cook & Hussey's flock recently. They were on the head of the south fork of the Musselshell when found. The friends of H. R. Clendenin will be pleased to learn that he is hopeful of arranging affairs so as to begin business on his own account again at no distant day. He succeeded admirably well with his difficulties, having paid off all of his Montana creditors, we believe, before the levy was made by Tillinghast & Co.'s creditors, and we learn that there was ample property at the time the attachment was made to pay all claims so far as Clendenin is interested. No man has done more for the Musselshell country than has Mr. Clendenin, and there are few, if any, that are surrounded by more warm friends than he.

News reached the valley Tuesday that a lot of stock cattle numbering about 500, were snow-bound on the head waters of Shields river, and on the following morning (19th) Messrs. Lupold, Maym, Bryan and Proctor mounted horses, aiming to reach the locality in one day's ride. The cattle are supposed to belong to Martin & Myers, Smith river cattle owners.

NOTICED.

The Local "Organ" Not Ignored by Contemporaries.

We think it a mistake that the central Democratic organ—it calls itself that—has any cause of complaint that the Territorial papers do not notice it. This may be true of papers of the party with which it trains, or processes to train. They seem to think the central paper a straggler, not a leader. With the Republican press it is different. These journals are disposed to recognize the fact that a publication like the Independent exists. They are amused when its political cavortings carry it over the party barriers and for the nonce lands it in the neighborhood of the Republican fold. They speak of it and smile while they speak. Here is some evidence of it: [Inter-Mountain.]

"The Independent, in common with nine-tenths of the people of Montana has regretted the exchange of governors," says the Helena Democrat (?) organ. As far as "nine-tenths of the people" are concerned, the Democratic organ is mistaken but there can be no doubt that the Independent regrets the change. Under the old regime, that able and consistent and immaculate journal was given a great deal of public printing to which it had no shadow of a right. At present it is not receiving that patronage, "hence these tears" and these "sweats." [New Northwest.]

The Independent of last Saturday, in an editorial more noticeable for impulsiveness than deliberation, stood up in meeting and said:

"The Independent would prefer to support for delegate in Congress an open, fearless Republican, who had the courage of his convictions and who could be relied upon as an earnest, unflinching opponent of our present carpet-bag government, than some politic Democrat who would carry water on both shoulders, and would go to Washington as the secret ally of the 'powers that be.'"

These were bold words, and we had hopes the Independent had experienced a change of heart and would henceforth post its broadside to the perpetual Delegate and the crumbling ruins of demoralized Montana Democracy. But the noble resolve vanished with the edition, and on Sunday the Independent pronounced Maginnis the paragon of Delegates, and explained the pickwickian character of its preceding remarks on political affiliations. The fact of the matter appears to be that Col. Wolfolk is disposed to wield a free lance against the sins of his party, but party pressure is too strong to withstand.

[River Press.]

The Independent has made another and a bolder advance upon the "Great Poplar Heart," and we are pleased to say that it has struck out in a promising direction this time. We quote:

"We want no secret friend of an unscrupulous law-breaking government, or corrupt and scheming judge in Congress. Such men can never be removed while they have the secret friendship of the people's delegate in Washington. The Independent would prefer to support for Delegate in Congress an open, fearless Republican, who had the courage of his convictions and who could be relied upon as an earnest, unflinching opponent of our present carpet-bag government, than some politic Democrat who would carry water on both shoulders, and would go to Washington as the secret ally and confederate of the 'powers that be.'"

Let the Independent change its line of attack from the carpet-baggers to Maginnis, and it will be certain to find the "G. P. H." in full accord with it.

The Alert Celebration.

LONDON, March 26.—The putting in commission yesterday of the war sloop Alert, recently presented by England to America, to participate in the Greeley search expedition, was becomingly celebrated. James Russell Lowell hoisted the American colors at the Alert's peak. Fifty guests lunched on board, among whom were the Earl of Northbrook, to which the Admiralty, Lord Alister, Admiral Seymour and one of the Junior Lords of the Admiralty. Conspicuous among the company were many famous for Arctic exploration, as Vice-Admiral Sir James McClintock, who accompanied the Sir John Franklin Franklin search parties, and who commanded that of 1857, Sir Allen Young, who served under McClintock in 1857, and who has made two expeditions since in the Pandora, Sir George Nares, who commanded the Alert on her previous expedition to the Arctic region ten years ago, Commander Parr, who accompanied the same expedition, and Mr. Leigh Smith, who in the last twelve years has made twelve voyages to the north. Lieutenant Commander Chadwick, naval attaché of the American legation, was present, also Lieutenant Commander Goodrich, who will take the Alert to America. Mr. Lowell proposed a toast to the Queen, to which the Earl of Northbrook responded. He said the Queen took a deep interest in the expedition in which the Alert was to share, and had felt great pleasure in authorizing the offer of the Alert to the American government. A toast was then proposed to the success of the expedition, and was coupled with the health of Lieutenant Goodrich.

Bonds and Stocks.

NEW YORK, March 26.—(Central Pacific, 100; bid; 428, 133; 48, 24; Central Pacific, 58; Burlington, 24; Northern Pacific, 21; do. preferred, 47; Northwestern, 17; New York Central, 14; Oregon Railway & Navigation, 89; Pacific Mail, 51; Panama, 98; St. Louis & San Francisco, 24; Texas Pacific, 20; Union Pacific, 70; Wells, Fargo Express, 110; Western Union, 73. Bar silver, 1.11.

Chicago Grain Market.

CHICAGO, March 26.—WHEAT—Lower, 83; March; 83; April; 89 May; 90; June; 91; July. CORN—Lower; 49; March; 9; April; 54; May; 5; June; 74; July. OATS—28; March and April; 28; May; 28; June. PORK—\$17.57; March; 70; May; 80; June. LARD—9.20; March; 32; May; 40; June.

Sargent for Minister to Russia.

WASHINGTON, March 26.—The President has sent to the Senate the nomination of Aaron A. Sargent, Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary to Germany, to be Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary to Russia, vice Wm. H. Hunt, deceased.

A Revolving Product.

ALBANY, N. Y., March 26.—In the Assembly to-day a bill passed regulating the sale of oleomargarine and other substitutes for butter. The main feature is that requiring the conspicuous posting of notices giving the character of the stuff sold.