

The Mineral Argus.

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MAIDEN, MEAGHER COUNTY, M. T., THURSDAY, APRIL 1, 1886.

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DEVOTED TO THE MINERAL, AGRICULTURAL, STOCK AND WOOL INTERESTS OF THE GREAT JUDITH COUNTRY.

The Mineral Argus

MAIDEN, THURSDAY, April 1, 1886

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WASHINGTON LETTER.

[From Our Regular Correspondent.]

WASHINGTON, March 19th, 1886.
Within a week Congress has had two opportunities to suppress a custom that has been criticised by the whole country. I refer to the custom of junketing funeral excursions whenever a Senator or Representative happens to die. It is one against which public sentiment has long manifested itself. Yet the junketing goes on. It is estimated that the expense of transporting the remains of Senator Miller to California by special train and sending with it a Congressional committee which will return in the same way, will be \$20,000. The expense of the funeral train and committee that have gone with the deceased Representative Hahn to New Orleans, will cost at least half that amount.

One member of Congress has had the courage to declare himself against this senseless way of spending the people's money. It was Mr. Oates, a one-armed Democrat from Alabama. He offered a resolution to amend the House rules so as to prohibit the appointment of funeral committees to accompany the dead bodies of members beyond the limits of Washington City. If it should be adopted, then the proposed plan of confining the delivery of eulogies over deceased members to special Sunday sessions, would be next in order.

It is carrying the matter further than either duty or good taste demands to lay aside the nation's business for a whole day when a member's death is announced, and for another whole day to honor his memory with panegyric oratory. No patriotic member of either House of Congress would wish to have his demise stop public business or desire a junketing expedition to celebrate it.

Death has been busy in the Forty-Ninth Congress, having taken already two Republican and two Democratic members from the lower House, and from the Senate, one Republican Senator and a Democratic Vice-President. The sudden death of ex-Governor Hahn of Louisiana, a prominent Republican Congressman from that State, was ascribed to the bursting of a blood vessel from violent coughing. In his private parlor at Willard's Hotel, he was found outstretched on the floor, lifeless, attired in his night robe, and covered with blood.

Among other changes proposed in Congress is one substituting the thirtieth of April for inauguration day in place of the fourth of March. It is held that the latter day, which was selected by the continental Congress for the installation of the new government, now causes public inconvenience by curtailing and limiting the second session of every Congress. The first President was inaugurated on the thirtieth of April and it is proposed that the one hundredth anniversary of the inauguration of George Washington be commemorated by the inauguration of his successor in 1889 upon the same day, and that this shall be the day hereafter for the beginning of successive administrations.

Interest in the Senate debate on the "papers" question had flagged this week until a sharp tilt occurred between Senators Beck of Kentucky and Edmunds of Vermont which gave new life to it. Mr. Edmunds accused Mr. Beck of betraying Senate secrets by alluding to the Dusk case in open session, and a question of honor was finally raised between these two Senators. Even the Washington idlers had begun to consider the debate a bore, and the Senate galleries were comparatively empty on Tuesday when Senator Cullom took the floor to reinforce Mr. Edmunds. The Illinois Senator read his speech from beginning to end, and received but little interested attention. No new points were brought out, the line of argument followed being that hitherto presented by Mr. Edmunds. Senator Maxey of Texas, who followed on the Democratic side, held that the object of the present fight was to keep Republican office holders in possession of their places, even against the will of the Administration and of the people who put the Administration in power.

The President affords but little material for gossip in his ceaseless application to his duties. He continues to find time, however, to come down into the east room for a few minutes three times a week and shake hands with the people who have gathered there for this purpose. Among the cards left at the White House to-day was the following: "J. T. Newman. I have been voting for Democratic Presidents for forty-eight years. I would like to see one before I die." He was accorded a special interview.

The President continues to dine

Congress in sections. Last evening forty-one Senators were invited. They were seated at table in the alternate order of Democrat and Republican. The state parlors were brilliantly lighted, but there were no flowers, no music, and no women.

GENERAL NEWS NOTES.

The Chinese are taking advantage of the low railroad rates and are going east in great numbers, from San Francisco.

The House committee on education have decided to report the Blair education bill, recently passed by the Senate, adversely.

Mrs. Grant has paid over to Virginia Corbin, Gen. Grant's sister, \$25,000, which sum having been lost in the failure of Grant & Ward.

The Secretary of the Treasury has issued the 15th call for the redemption of bonds. The call is for \$10,000,000 of the three per cent. loan of 1882.

Senator Logan introduced a bill, repealing the provision of the existing law, which declares that when a vacancy occurs in the office of a General or Lieut. General of the army such office shall cease.

An immense meeting was held Monday night, March 22d, in the Walker Opera House, Salt Lake, presided over by the Democratic members of the Chicago national convention, to endorse the acts of Gov. Murray during the past six years. Speeches were made eulogizing the course of the retiring governor by prominent citizens regardless of party.

The banking and currency committee of the House had a conference with Treasurer Jordan. The principal subject of discussion was as to the best means of keeping silver in circulation as long as possible. Treasurer Jordan favored making banks a circulating agency instead of the treasury. He thought this would secure the largest and cheapest circulation.

On March 20th the House Committee on Public Lands re-considered the bill, previously agreed upon to repeal the timber culture, pre-emption and desert land laws. A motion was carried to report favorably the bill to repeal the pre-emption law. It was then moved to report favorably the bill to repeal the timber culture law. The committee decided to refer the matter to the Commissioner of the Land Office before reaching a final conclusion.

It is understood Maj. Gen. Schofield will be transferred to the division of the Atlantic, with headquarters at New York; that Major Gen. Terry will be assigned to the command of the division of the Missouri, with headquarters at Chicago, and that Gen. Howard will be given command of the division of the Pacific, with headquarters at San Francisco. The proposed transfer of Gen. Schofield is said to be in strict accordance with his expressed desire.

On Saturday, March 19th, H. C. Steadman, a farmer of Burt county, Nebraska, and proprietor of two creameries near Lyons, discharged Ed. Johnson alias John Anderson. Johnson then shot Steadman in the bowels, causing death. He then procured a Winchester rifle, and a large quantity of ammunition, mounted a horse, and started off. Constable Parker organized a party and caught up with him twelve miles out. A battle ensued in which the murderer killed Peter and Chas. Johnson, and the constable's horse. He finally ran into Chas. Johnson's barn and continued to shoot on the crowd through the cracks, killing Edgar Everett. The siege of the desperado closed by burning the barn and its contents, valued at \$5,000 and belonging to C. P. Johnson, one of the killed. During the fire he fired shots into the crowd who returned the fire and shot him in the head.

Temperance Sermon.

The modern times young married man,
"The haggard and pale young man."
"The foot in the grave young man."

His yearly salary, \$1,000; wife and two children to support. He pays for house rent, \$10 per month; for servant hire, nothing; (his wife performs all the household duties without assistance); for butcher's bill, \$8 per month; milk bill, \$2; groceries and provisions, \$12 per month; fuel, \$3 per month; sundries for house, \$5 per month; clothing for self, \$8 per month; clothing for wife and young children, \$4 per month.

The above quoted necessary expenses amount to \$52 per month, or \$620 for one year. The following is the personal "luxury" expense account of the husband and father, per month: Club dues, \$1; wines and liquors, \$3; cigars and tobaccos, \$7.50; billiards, \$6; carriage hire, for driving with a club friend, \$6; tickets to base ball games, and horse races, (during season,) \$2; tickets to the theatre and opera, whether he goes alone or with a male friend, \$1; oysters for after theatre luncheon, \$1. At the end of the year the gentleman's personal expenses have amounted to \$396. About \$200 expended for stimulating luxuries (so-called), which were not only of no benefit, whatever, to the gentleman, but were positively injurious to his health, although we will assume that he never becomes intoxicated.

The gentleman's account at the end of the year:
Salary received \$1,000.00
Expenses 1,116.00
Arrears 116.00

The \$200 paid for wines liquors and cigars would have covered the wages of one servant for wife, and the yearly cost of a life insurance policy for \$12,000 (twelve thousand dollars), in favor of wife and children. Of the other personal expenses—the unnecessary ones largely in excess—we will say nothing; a sober, sensible man will not permit them to accumulate.

Let the young men of our too crowded cities cease drinking, or "cease firing" their stomachs and brains, save their earnings above necessary expenses for five years, when they should migrate to Montana, be temperate in all things—total abstainers from the use of alcoholic stimulants as a beverage—and be crowned cattle, sheep, or gold and silver bonanza kings.

LAFIS.

MONTANA ITEMS.

Helena is to have another newspaper the "Montana Citizen."

The Moulton, of Butte, has declared its ninth dividend of \$30,000.

Rich gold quartz has been found in Big Indian Gulch, near Helena.

The output for Butte in 1886 will closely crowd \$20,000,000.—Miner.

The Anaconda matte is now going east by way of the Northern Pacific.

Montana's school population has increased two thousand in the last year.

Montana consumes 100,000 pounds of bogus butter every week.—Herald.

Between fifty and sixty miles of grading have now been let by written contracts for the Montana Central.

John M'Ausland has been confirmed as postmaster at Miles City, and T. W. Poindexter as postmaster at Dillon.

We learn that New York and Montana parties have arranged to open a banking house at Great Falls, on or about the 1st of May.

Crow Agent Williamson has advertised for 300,000 pounds of gross beef, to be delivered at the agency during the remainder of the fiscal year.

The Concord Cattle Co., have sold their stock to the Boston Live stock Company. The former owned several thousand head of cattle in Montana.

The Dillon "Broom Brigade" composed of Dillon belles, made a clean sweep recently of \$130 for the benefit of the First Baptist church of that city.

Twenty-five thousand souls will be added to the population of Montana during 1886, and two-thirds of this number will locate upon public lands.—Miner.

The knights of Labor of Butte have informed the clothing men that they will "boycott" all dealers who keep in stock, "Stetson's" and "No Name" hats after May 1st.

Dogs got into J. T. Arrington's sheep corral, on Belt creek one night recently and caused the death of about 300 thoroughbred sheep, worth \$1,200 or \$1,500.—Great Falls Tribune.

There is a coal oil famine in Benton. The large stock of this article usually carried by the merchants of that place has given out, and there is no oil to be bought in that town for love or money.

Major J. A. Logan, of the Home Land and Cattle Company of Miles City, recently leased two million acres of land in Canada. The company intend stocking it at once. The lease is for twenty one years and is one of the largest known.

X. Beidler says that \$30,000 in green-backs were found in a hole behind the vault in the old bank building just torn down in Helena, and that the money was so mouse-eaten that he knew it never would be redeemed, hence he gave it to Bloody Knife.—Yellowstone Journal.

While quarrying rock near town the other day, Win. Martin found a live frog imbedded in the solid rock, eight feet from the surface. His frogship must have been living for ages in that stone sepulchre, which induces these inquiries. How he came to be entombed, the period of time he thus remained and how he existed without nourishment? Will some philosopher please post us on this point? When the frog was found his eyes were closed and he had no use of his legs, but he has since opened his eyes and can crawl about a little. He is on exhibition at the Largent Hotel.—Rising Sun.

The Metals in Ship Building.

Some idea of the large amount of iron and copper, etc., which enters into the construction of a ship may be formed by reading the following paragraph: The old war ship Niagara, recently broken up at the Charleston Navy Yard, yields 171,226 pounds of copper, 61,369 pounds of composition, 486 pounds of wrought iron, 646 pounds of cast iron, and 18,000 pounds of lead.