

# Fergus County Argus.

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LEWISTOWN, FERGUS COUNTY, M. T., THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 2, 1888.

Price 10 Cts.

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

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Located at the junction of the Billings and Den on, Ubet and Main and White Springs Springs.  
Stable and Bar in connection with House. Good Meals and Beds.

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Feed and Sale Stable.  
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Rigs of all kinds, Fine Saddle Animals and best Stabling.  
If you want a first-class buggy, wagon, saddle horse, or good stabling, give me a call.  
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LEWISTOWN, MONTANA.  
Take pleasure in announcing to the public generally, the arrival direct from the Best Eastern Houses, of an immense stock of

**Staple and Fancy Groceries**  
Hardware, Tinware, Granitware, Glassware, Crockery.  
Mechanic's Tools, Cooking and Heating Stoves, Chairs, Tables and Kitchen Furniture, Lamps and Lamp Stock, Firearms and Ammunition, Doors and Sash, Hardwood, Iron and Steel.

**Dry Goods and Notions!**  
Full and Fine Stock of Boots and Shoes; an endless variety of Prints, Gingham, Embroidery, Laces, Hosiery, Men's Summer Gloves, Dress Goods, Hats and Caps; the "Stetson Cowboy Hat," a Specialty.

**Farming Machinery!**  
Walter A. Wood's Mowers and Extras; Twine Binders, Sweep Rake Reapers; Hollingsworth Rakes; The rancher's favorite—the Cooper Wagon; John Deere Plow—Breaking, Stirring, Shovel, Hillside and Sulky; Extra Heavy Plow especially for Ditching; Steel Road-Scrapers, Harrows and Harrow Teeth; Buggies, Buckboards, Spring Wagons and Roadcarts.

**Painted and Galvanized Barbed Fence Wire a Specialty!**  
All our Goods having come by river, on our own boats, we propose to give our patrons this season, First Class Goods, at Prices that will defy all competition.

**Broadwater, McNamara & Co.**  
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Dealers in General Merchandise, Stockmen's Ranchers' and Miners' Supplies.

**"Schuttler" Steel Skein Wagons,**  
Barbed and Smooth Fence Wire,  
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Wagon Covers and Harness.

Carrying, as we do, the largest and best selected general stock in Fergus county, we offer superior inducements to all classes of buyers. Mail orders and inquiries given prompt attention.

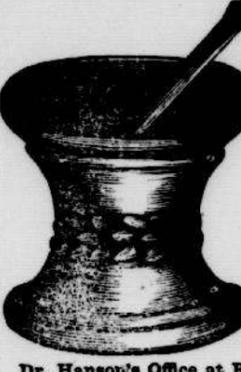
**LEWISTOWN HOTEL,**  
WM. HORTOP, Prop.  
In Every Respect. Table Unexcelled. Fine Rooms and Beds.

**FIRST-CLASS HOUSE**  
First-Class Bar  
And Feed Stable  
CONNECTED WITH THE HOUSE.  
Foot of Main Street, Near Big Spring Creek Bridge,

**LEWISTOWN, - MONTANA.**  
The wood clip of 1887 is estimated by the Agricultural Bureau at 255,000,000 pounds, against 285,000,000 pounds in 1886; 302,000,000 pounds in 1885 and 307,000,000 pounds in 1884. These figures are fully 15 per cent. lower than the estimates of the best commercial authorities.

**LEWISTOWN DRUG STORE,**  
The Only Drug Store in Judith Basin.  
NEW STOCK! FRESH STOCK!  
We take pleasure in introducing to the public our stock of  
Drugs, Chemicals,  
Patent Medicines,  
Fancy Goods,  
Toilet Articles,  
Full Line of Stationery,  
The greatest assortment of  
CONFECTIONERY,  
FRUITS, NUTS and NOTIONS  
in the Basin.  
We make a special inducement in CHILDREN'S TOYS, PLAYING CARDS, CROQUET SETS, FISHING TACKLE.  
The leading periodicals of the day received weekly.  
IMPORTED and DOMESTIC CIGARS of superior quality.  
Dr. Hanson's Office at Residence.

**NORMAN & HANSON**



Dr. Hanson's Office at Residence.

**AN ENORMOUS SERPENT.**  
A Monster that Has His Abode in the Hollow of an Extinct Volcano.  
[St. Louis Globe Democrat.]  
SAN MARIAL, N. M., Dec. 26.—This section of the country has been considerably aroused from time to time by conflicting reports of Mexicans, who says that the extinct crater to the east of the plain, known as the "Jornado del Muerto," about twenty-five miles from this place, is the abode of a monster serpent, second in size only to that huge reptile of the seas that has so often been spoken of by mariners and others. It is reported by some to be fully 100 feet in length and two feet in circumference, but probably the most trustworthy information is that given by a Mr. Alexander, who possesses some mining property in the San Andreas mountains, which lie to the east of the broad plain. Mr. Alexander says that he saw the serpent once while crossing the Jornada on the way to his mines. He was about half way across the plain, jogging leisurely behind his burro, dreaming of the immense wealth that he hoped to realize when his burro stopped, erected his long ears, wheeled quickly around and made a mad stampede in the opposite direction. Mr. Alexander was at a loss to account for this strange freak of the burro, and was about to start in pursuit of the runaway when he chanced to look ahead. Then his eyes gazed upon the monster. He was so beside himself with fear at first, he says, that his nerves were completely paralyzed, his hair stood on end, and move he could not; he was rooted to the spot, and his eyes were fixed upon the serpent. It was a quarter of a mile from him, and was traveling in the opposite direction toward the crater. He says it appeared to be about sixty feet in length, but what surprised him most was the queer proportions of the creature. The fore parts were of enormous size, it being fully as large as a barrel. A few feet behind the creature's head two large scales were visible, which glittered in the sun like polished shields; further back were two long claws on either side, about two feet apart, which were all the monster had in the shape of feet. The rest of his body was comparatively small and tapering to the end of its tail, sometimes reaching its whole body from the ground, and walked on its four claws. He watched it till it disappeared over a little hill, and then he started to look after his burro.

The Mexican have the most deadly fear of the crater, and will not venture within miles of it, there being popular tradition among them that it is the abode of some terrible serpent. The Mexicans assert that on one occasion a descent of the crater was made by three men, and as none of them returned, it was generally believed they were devoured by the monster.

**TO REDUCE THE SURPLUS.**  
Farwell's Bill to Provide a New Security for National Bank Circulation.  
Senator Farwell has introduced a bill authorizing the secretary of the treasury to apply the treasury surplus to the purchase of bonds and to perpetuate the national banking system by the issue of further securities. The first section authorizes the secretary to issue to national banking associations coupon or registered bonds of the United States, redeemable after fifty years from the date of their issue, bearing interest payable semi-annually at the rate of 3 per cent. per annum, to be used by national banking associations as security for their circulating notes. Such bonds shall be exempt from taxation by or under state or municipal authority. National banks are authorized to issue circulating notes to the full value of said bonds.

The second section authorizes national banks to exchange outstanding bonds of the United States for the new 3 per cent. bonds provided by the act and directs the secretary to pay any difference in cash, such difference to be ascertained by taking the average premium as shown by the New York market for twenty days prior to the time of such exchange.

Section 3 authorizes the secretary to receive United States notes from national banks in payment for the new 3 per cent. bonds, which are to be delivered at their par value.

Section 4 directs the secretary, at the end of each month, to invest the surplus funds held in the treasury (not otherwise appropriated) in the purchase in open market of any United States bonds, such bonds to be cancelled and destroyed.

The fifth section authorizes the United States treasurer to receive from any national banking association, to secure its circulating notes, an amount equal in value (the value hereinafter provided) to the coupon or registered bonds so purchased, cancelled, and destroyed any state or municipal bonds of the United States upon which interest has been heretofore promptly paid and whose market value is equal to or greater than their par value, bearing interest at a rate of not less than 4 per cent. per annum. Provided, that the treasurer of the United States shall not receive such state or municipal bonds at more than 75 per cent of their par value. Provided, further, that the treasurer of the United States shall not receive such state or municipal bonds until such bonds shall have endorsed upon them the approval of the secretary of the treasury and the comptroller of the currency.

The last section repeals all laws and parts of laws relating to the establishment of a sinking fund for the payment of the public debt.

**The Wool Market.**  
While the wool market was less active in 1886 than in 1885, the year just ended has exhibited still more noteworthy dullness. Manufacturers have steadily adhered to the policy of buying only as they have needed supplies for consumption, and the tendency of prices from first to last has been downward. Values at the end of the year for almost every description of wool were 2c. to 5c. per pound lower than at the beginning. There was some excitement in the market at clip time, as usual, and many buyers paid more for wool in the country than the stock was worth on the seaboard at the time and up there it has been worth since. There was some improvement in tone in November, but only for a moment, and the market holds in buyers favor. The depression is attributable to the unsatisfactory state of the manufacturing industry, which is hampered in various ways, and particularly by large importations of woolen and worsted goods.

**A St. Louis Man in Chicago.**  
"Evening" me for addressing you," said a man who had been looking for some moments at a stranger in a Chicago hotel, "but you remind me so strongly of a clergyman named De-Benyon whom I knew in Michigan that I—" "The h—P—I do!" ejaculated the stranger, taking an enormous bite from the end of a black pipe of tobacco and crunching it savagely. "Beg pardon, I see I was mistaken. Here is everything over in Missouri?"

**Something Harder**  
Minister: "So you go to school, do you, Bobby?"  
Mother: "Let me hear you spell kitten."  
Bobby: "I'm getting too big a boy to spell kitten. Try me on cat—New York Sun"

**FOR WICE SHAKERS.**  
The Shaking of Dice a Felony Under Montana Law.  
[Dillon Tribune.]  
Men who are in the daily habit of frequenting fluid establishments and shaking dice for the drinks are, perhaps, not aware that they are daily laying themselves liable to the prosecution and conviction of felony. The law of Montana is plain on the subject. In the law passed last winter regulating gambling, one section makes dice shaking a felony, punishable by imprisonment in the Territorial penitentiary. As the law appears to be so unfamiliar to the public the section is quoted for the benefit of those interested, as follows:

"Sec. 3. That section 108 of the fourth division of the laws of Montana be amended to read as follows: "Sec. 108. That if any person shall deal, play at, or make any bet or wager, for money or other thing of value, at any of the games known as three card monte, strap game, thimble, rig patent sale game, black and red game (commonly known as the ten dice game), percentage stud-horse poker, twenty-one, high ball, blue jay, chuck luck, short faro, or any dice game, two card box faro, or any similar game or games, or shall induce any person whatever to make any bet or wager on any such game, shall be deemed guilty of felony, and on conviction thereof shall be imprisoned in the Territorial Penitentiary for a term not exceeding ten years, and pay a fine not less than \$100 nor more than \$1,000."

The shaking of dice for cigars, for cigars cost, for a shake, 25c. to 50c. The shaking of dice—"high man out," "rocky row," or any other dice game)—for the drinks is shaking for a thing of value, because the drinks 25c., 50c., \$1, and \$1.50, according to the number of throwers engaged in the game and the quality of the wet goods taken. This is one of the laws of last winter. It would be rather severe treatment to send a man to the penitentiary for shaking dice for the cigars or drinks, but such is the law. If this law should be enforced over half of the men in Montana would pull up in the penitentiary sure, and the number of innocents that would get on board the train from Dillon, bound for the Territorial Penitentiary, would decrease the voting population over one-half and leave any families without a head to provide support.

**Ara'd to Meet Sullivan.**  
[Boston Globe.]  
There appears to be little prospect of a match being arranged between John L. Sullivan and Jim Smith; for some time to come at least. Smith desires such a meeting brought about, but, curious to say, his manager, John Fleming, is adverse to such an arrangement. Smith failed to show up at the Sportsman office at the appointed time last Wednesday, at which time articles were to be signed and preliminaries arranged. After waiting nearly an hour Sullivan appeared at the window to gratify the curiosity of the crowd below. He was received with loud cheers, and no chance of Smith putting in an appearance, he took his departure for Paddington station. Previous to leaving, Sullivan, in speaking of Smith's failure to arrange a match, said to the writer: "I came here to fight Smith, and I demand a hearing at once. I wish to serve notice on him and his manager that in April I expect to return and should be glad to meet me. I hope that on the eve of my departure Smith's manager will not be uncharitable or mean enough to issue a challenge except to fight in America. My \$2,000 will remain at the Sportsman office at least two weeks longer, so that Fleming can have an excuse for not coming up to time. As for Kilrain, he is only a third-rate man in my country, and when I get back home he will have to fight, too, or else sink back into oblivion. Since my arrival in England I have given fifty one shows and have netted \$25,000 myself, a success here before unknown to any man in this country. I have been well received everywhere, and draw big audiences in each town I visited. It merely shows that the public at large believe me to be what all Americans claim, namely, the champion of the world."

**He Will No Longer Object.**  
Washington Special. Judge Holman of Indiana is getting tired of his name as an objector. It is said that he has made up his mind to try to break off his old habit. He has aged much of late. Time wears him differently from what it does most. It seems to have no ennobling effect upon him. It grizzles and dries him up. He is not indeed so very old—only 66—but he has been so long in public service that he has got stale. His hair and beard whickers are grizzled and his flesh, like dried stubble, and his flesh seems to be drying up like parchment, so that you expect to hear a cracking in his cheeks as he opens his mouth. His eyes have lost nothing of their brightness. Like little sparks of fire set back in his head, they start and glow, being that a very shy and cunning soul is peeping out. In this they look no false report. The judge has lost nothing of his cunning. He waves his long index finger as he talks, and his eyes bristle when he can insinuate his views upon his listener without directly stating them. His reputation as an objector has made him unpopular and he is weary of it. He is going to quit now if he can. He may not have another term in congress and he does not wish to leave ungrateful. He is getting more amiable.

**Death by Electricity.**  
At this season, when every influence and association reminds us of one who died that mercy might live forever in the souls of men, I have been peculiarly interested in the newspaper discussion of the proposition for the substitution of death by electricity for death by hanging in the infliction of capital punishment. It appears that a measure of this kind is to be brought forward in the New York legislature during the winter, and that there is reasonable hope of its adoption, though I observe that there is a great deal of affectionate regard for the good old gallows-tree among the public of the press. In fact, there is much to be said in behalf of this venerable growth of centuries, rooted in the remotest past of our Anglo-Saxon race, and hardly deserving the as and the stake through every change of policy and religion. Yet there is a grave question whether it is not an instrument of torture as well as of death, and whether it is not, after nearly nineteen centuries of the Christ who bade us not to kill at all, to kill by the

humanest method known to science. The weight of human testimony seems to be in favor of electricity, and there is apparently no good reason why this mysterious agent, which now makes the whole civilized world by means of keen intelligences, which illuminates every enterprise, which already propels trains of cars and promises to heat them, which has added to life in apparently inexhaustible variety, should not be employed to take it away.

There is a sort of poetical fitness in its use which we ought not to overlook in an age and a country ambitious of humanity as well as humanity. I understand that electricity can be applied with a minimum of official intervention, and without even arousing the victim, or say patient, from his sleep on the morning fixed for the execution of the sentence. One journal has drawn an interesting picture of the simple process, and I have fancied the executioner throughout the state taking place from the governor's office, where his private secretary, or the governor himself, might touch a little apparatus and button and discuss a case to the satisfaction of the state with the slightest pressure of the finger. In cases of unusual interest the executive might invite a company of distinguished guests to be present, and the state might be the party to touch the button. Or, as when troops are engaged or mining plants fixed to the completion of a great public work, a child might be allowed to discharge the executioner's office.

In the event, however, that the legislature should refuse to touch a single button of the humanized gallows, I have a suggestion to make in the matter of executions. I have long thought it cruel to the sheriff and his deputies to force them to do this hangman's work, and monstrous to let some uneducated wretch make legal killing his trade; and I have to propose that the executioner should be drawn from society at large as jurors are, and that no execution should avail, except the oath of the person drawn that he is conscientiously opposed to capital punishment. This system, which is perfectly practicable, would give from time to time, men of every profession and station the opportunity to attest their devotion to the great principle that it is wrong to take life, a second strand of the kind crosses the balance and makes it right.—W. D. Howells in Harper's Weekly.

**TO WOUND AND NOT KILL.**  
A Talk With an Army Officer on the Ethics of Warfare.  
[Washington Star.]  
"Is not this indicative of a change in the ethics of modern warfare?" asked a reporter the other day of a well-known army officer connected with the War Department. He was calling the officer's attention to an item in Tuesday's Star, giving an account of a new Swiss gun, and which said: "Owing to the smooth surface of the steel-clap bullet, it is believed that the wounds inflicted will be much more readily healed."  
"No," replied the officer, promptly; "that is not a change. It has always been believed by modern military men that the killing of the enemy is less desirable than wounding them. Now, there is but one thing to be attained when a conflict occurs between two bodies of troops. You, on one hand, are endeavoring to secure some advantage by forcing your enemy from an important position, while they, of course, are equally desirous of repelling you and securing your place. The first and only way of accomplishing this end is by demoralizing your opponent and forcing them to retreat. There are three ways of demoralizing an army—first, the command, which does comparatively little physical damage, but inspires in the hearts of many of an advancing or defending force a feeling of fear that often results in a speedy panic and retreat; then comes a wound, which has more of a moral effect than you might suppose. A wounded man always wants and always gets a great deal of sympathy from his comrades, who, seeing his condition, are very apt to be seized by a sudden desire to show generosity toward the poor fellow and help him to the rear. A wounded man often means three out of the ranks, while a dead man counts but for one. And so, for this reason, killing is put last in the list of desirable demoralizers, as it is considered a useless barbarity."  
"The Chinese have the same theory," it would seem, in regard to warfare. They have an arrangement known by the elegant but expressive name of "striked." It is a concentration of diabolism and cold. The only use, of course, to which it can be put in a contest is for demoralizing the enemy. There are but few men who could march through the atmosphere created by the surprising brain of the heathen Chinese. The old "Greek fire" was partly for destruction and as much for demoralization. The Roman idea of battle was purely sanguinary. Now, to come down to this new bullet. The chances of death from a wound resulting from it are considerably reduced, owing to the fact that on leaving the gun its surface is comparatively smooth. The bullet is covered by a thin sheet of steel, which readily takes the rifling of the bore and does not emerge with the jagged edges which tear and irritate the wound and increase the liability of death. The rifling of the gun is also curious. Heretofore it was thought that a rifle of one turn in fifteen inches was all that could be safely secured. It was believed that anything steeper would cause a choke. Now this Swiss gun is rifled with one turn in four inches, which is unparalleled in the history of the making of small arms. This insures great accuracy of aim, which in turn allows a marksman to wound an antagonist rather than kill him outright.

**A Boy's Bad Cat**  
A little girl, while playing with a cat, at Easton, Pa., put her tongue through the folds of a curtain to make pussy believe that it was a piece of meat. The cat seized the child's tongue and tore it so badly that it was cured only after much difficulty and suffering.

**Mr. Whittier's birthday presents** are still coming along one of the latest being a balloon pillow embossed with pine cones. The balloon goes up to the grave of Helen Hunt Jackson, in Colorado, and the pillow was made by an Indian girl.