

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

During the excitement of the war scare, do not forget the fact that at Chas. Lehman & Co's Big Department Store you can

Get More FOR YOUR Money than at other places.

Our line of dry goods for this season will include the latest and best patterns in Organdies, Linens, Grass Linens, Crashes, Percalae, etc. In order to make room for them we offer you bargains in everything; below are a few prices.



PER YARD.
Unbleached muslin.....5c.
Heavy cotton Flannel.....12c.
Good dark calico.....5c.
A better grade.....7c.
Extra heavy German calico in stripes or figures.....12c.
Ladies' all wool skirts regular \$3 to \$3.75 quality—choice...\$2.25
Ladies' skirts from \$2.50 to \$3.00

Our line of Laces, Trimmings, and Embroideries will be larger and more complete than ever before. We solicit your patronage.

Chas. Lehman & Co

We want Your trade

WE HAVE THE

IMPLEMENTS

That Please the Farmer.

Ask Your Neighbors

ABOUT THEM.

Choice

Alfalfa and Timothy

Don't make any bargains in our line until you have talked with us. We are after your trade. Come and see us.

Hobensack & Stoddard.
(Successors to Hobensack & Sloan.)

ROBERT MURRAY, PROPRIETOR

Divide Coal Mine,

Situated on McDonald Creek Divide.

\$3.00 per ton at mine.
\$5.00 delivered.

Orders left with T. J. Vehawn will be given prompt attention.

NOTICE

United States Land Office, Lewistown, Montana, February 26th, 1898.
Complaint having been entered at this office by Thomas Fairbank against William J. Savage for failure to make proof on entry No. 272, dated June 23, 1896, upon the w 1/4 sec 29 w 1/4 sec 32 T 11 N R 22 E, in Fergus County, Montana, with a view to the cancellation of said entry, the said parties are hereby summoned to appear at the United States Land Office, Lewistown, Montana on the 6th day of April, 1898, at 2 o'clock P. M., to respond and furnish testimony concerning said alleged abandonment.

JOHN P. BARNES, Receiver.
First publication March 2.

NOTICE

DESERT LAND FINAL PROOF—Notice for Publication—United States Land Office at Lewistown, Mont., March 9, 1898. Notice is hereby given that the Judith Mercantile and Cattle Co., a corporation, by Gillman R. Norris, manager of said company, who are the successors in interest and assignees of Thomas Dunn, who made H. E. No. 488 for the ne 1/4 sec 29 w 1/4 sec 32 T 11 N R 22 E, in Fergus County, Montana, on Monday, April 13, 1898. He names the following witnesses to prove the complete irrigation and reclamation of said land, viz: Andrew B. Wilson, William T. Franklin, David Clave, Lewis D. Willerson, all of Judith, Montana.

DAVID HILGER, Register.
First publication March 9.

NOTICE

United States Land Office, Lewistown, Montana, March 12th, 1898.
Complaint having been entered at this office by Martin Bank against John L. Smith, for abandoning his claim No. 116, upon the west half of southwest quarter of section seventeen, in the southeast quarter of section nineteen, in township fourteen north, of range twelve east, in Fergus county, Montana, with a view to the cancellation of said entry, the said parties are hereby summoned to appear at this office on the twenty-fifth day of April, 1898, at ten o'clock A. M., to respond and furnish testimony concerning said alleged abandonment.

RUDOLF VON TOBEL, Attorney for Contestant.

DESERT LAND FINAL PROOF—Notice for Publication—United States Land Office at Lewistown, Mont., March 9, 1898. Notice is hereby given that the following named settler has filed notice of his intention to make final proof in support of his claim, and said proof will be made before the register and receiver at Lewistown, Mont., on Saturday, April 25, 1898, viz: RICHARDS, who made H. E. No. 488 for the ne 1/4 sec 29 w 1/4 sec 32 T 11 N R 22 E, in Fergus County, Montana, on Monday, April 13, 1898. He names the following witnesses to prove his continuous residence upon and cultivation of said land, viz: Charles W. Bayles of Lewistown, and Andrew B. Wilson, William T. Franklin, David Clave, Lewis D. Willerson, all of Judith, Montana.

DAVID HILGER, Register.
First publication March 9.

NOTICE—Timber Culture.

U. S. Land Office, Lewistown, Mont., March 11th, 1898.
Complaint having been entered at this office by Simon S. Hobson against Edwin W. Carr, by Simon S. Hobson against Edwin W. Carr, to comply with Section 5, Township 19 North, Range 21 East, in Fergus County, Montana, with a view to the cancellation of said entry, the said parties are hereby summoned to appear at this office on the twenty-fifth day of April, 1898, at ten o'clock A. M., to respond and furnish testimony concerning said alleged failure.

DAVID HILGER, Register.
First publication March 11.

Power Mercantile Company

Weekly Store News. A reliable store With reliable goods Reasonably priced.

Economists

Know full well the value of the best --know that economy is the art of purchasing the best where it is sold cheapest. Our stores are headquarters for such economists.

Always the best.

Always the Cheapest.

The cut prices extend into all departments. Our furnishing man, not to be outdone, tells us to advertise his entire line of Mens' and Boys' Caps at

20 PER CENT

discount off of marked prices on each cap. When you take into consideration how much of a saving this is you will not delay in purchasing one of these very best makes of caps at the reduced price. A saving of 20 cents on a dollar is not often to be had, therefore see what we offer at your earliest opportunity.

Say, said the clothing man, put me in too—what's the matter with selling my overcoats at a reduction; there isn't any use carrying them over and although we have marked them down already lets put another

20 PER CENT

discount on the whole stock. We took him at his word, and notwithstanding the previous great reductions, we offer you beginning-to-day the whole stock of Overcoats, Ulsters and Fur Coats at

20 per cent off from marked prices.

A new policy of catering to the public has been inaugurated by this house. We commenced some weeks ago to revise and condense our stocks—and whenever an opportunity of cutting the price could be made we put the knife in good and deep.

This week we offer a line of Fancy Wrapper Flannels

In a variety of new and handsome designs—The price has always been not less than 20c. a yard. To start the new era right we have made this line

12 1-2 cents a yard.

At that price they are decided bargains. Your early inspection is invited.

Another line that has felt the pruning process is quality "A" best make German Calico—These goods are full 38 inches wide. The cloth is of the heaviest texture and the wear is unequalled. They are worth in any store at all times not less than 15 cents a yard—but our policy compels us to offer the entire assortment at

12 1-2c. per yard.

Power Mercantile Company.

C. A. TILLOTSON, M.D., Physician and Surgeon.
Office on Main Street, opposite C. H. William's Drug Store.

SPECIAL ATTENTION GIVEN TO DISEASES OF WOMEN.

FRANK E. SMITH, Attorney and Counselor AT LAW, LEWISTOWN, MONTANA.

RUDOLF VON TOBEL, Attorney at Law, Office in Bank Building, LEWISTOWN, MONTANA.

BANK OF Fergus County. (Incorporated under the laws of Montana.) LEWISTOWN, MONT.

S. S. HOBSON, President
T. C. POWER, Vice-President
F. E. WRIGHT, Cashier
AUSTIN W. WARR, Asst. Cashier

Board of Directors: Perry W. McAdow, S. S. Hobson, J. Holmstrom, L. W. Eldridge, Austin W. Warr, L. H. Hamilton.

Capital, \$200,000
Surplus and Profits, \$70,000

E. K. CHEADLE, County Attorney of Fergus County and Attorney at Law.
Attention to Civil Business, Conveyancing and Collections.
OFFICE AT COURT HOUSE, LEWISTOWN, MONTANA.

W. H. OULVER, Photographer!
LEWISTOWN, MONTANA.

Great Northern Railway.
MONTANA POINTS, PACIFIC COAST AND THE EAST.

Palace Sleeping and Dining Cars, (meals in carts). Library Observation Cars, Family Tourist Sleepers and First and second-class coaches.
Direct route to the Kootenai Mining Country of Montana, Idaho and British Columbia.
Connects at Duluth in summer season with Northern steamships North West and North Land, for Mackinac, Detroit, Cleveland and Buffalo.
Connects at Seattle with steamers for California, Alaska, Japan and China.
Stages leave Lewistown Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays at 7 a. m. and connect the same night at Benton with trains going east and west.
Stages leave Lewistown daily at 1 p. m. and make connections the following day at Great Falls with trains going east and west.

TIME CARD.
No. 1 Daily. No. 2 Daily. No. 3 Daily. No. 4 Daily.
Lewistown 11:30am
Benton 12:30pm
Helena 1:30pm
Clancy 2:30pm
Butte 3:30pm
Lewistown 4:30pm
Lewistown 11:30am
Benton 12:30pm
Helena 1:30pm
Clancy 2:30pm
Butte 3:30pm
Lewistown 4:30pm
Lewistown 11:30am
Benton 12:30pm
Helena 1:30pm
Clancy 2:30pm
Butte 3:30pm
Lewistown 4:30pm

Interest allowed on Deposits left for a specified time.

SOME PERTINENT QUESTIONS Address to the "Honorable" by Mr. Brock Orbanus.

LEWISTOWN, March 23, '98.
EDITOR ARGUS:—To note the many divergences of the Democrat would be a burdensome task, to say the least, but its duplicity is so rank, and its unadulterated gall grows so much thicker all the time and some of its diversions are so conspicuous for their rank deception that to note them will apply serve to substantiate claims that have already been made to the effect that Mr. Johns would resort to any deception to accomplish his ends. Therefore, I wish to ask Mr. Johns a few questions through your paper.

Hon. T. J. Johns, Editor Lewistown Democrat—My Dear Sir: In your issue of the 16th ult. you said that Senators Carter and Mantle had formed an alliance. If you did not intend your readers to infer from that that Senator Mantle had taken up his quarters in the gold bug's camp, what did you intend them to infer?

Again, in your issue of the 23rd ult. you said that to all intents and purposes Senator Mantle was a gold bug. If you did not intend to convey the impression to the minds of your readers that Senator Mantle was an administration Republican, what impression did you intend to convey? And how do you explain the variance between the two foregoing editorials and the editorial in your issue of the 17th inst. in which you say:

[Continued on Fourth Page.]

SUB-MARINE MINE.

The Naval Court Confirms What Was First Suspected and Long Since Firmly Believed.

The Maine Was Taken to a Fixed Buoy By a Spanish Pilot and Destroyed by a Sub-Marine Mine.

The President Transmits the Report and a Brief Message to Congress, Which Immediately Adjourns.

The Report Has also Been Sent to Spain and Upon Her Reply Probably Hinge Peace or War.

[Special to the Argus.]
WASHINGTON, D. C., March 28, 1 p. m.—The President, after reviewing the incidents leading up to the time when the ship Maine went to Havana, and the condition of American interests there, says as follows:

"At forty minutes past nine on the 15th of February, the Maine was destroyed by an explosion which the entire forward part of the ship was utterly wrecked. In the catastrophe two officers and 260 of her crew perished. Those who were not killed outright by the explosion being penned between the decks by the tangle of wreckage and drowned by the immediate sinking of the hull. Prompt assistance was rendered by neighboring ships in the harbor, aid being especially given by the boats of the Spanish cruiser, Alphonso XIII, and the Ward Line steamer, City of Washington, which lay not far distant. The wounded were generously cared for by the authorities of Havana, hospitals being freely opened to them, while the earliest recovered of the bodies were interred by the municipality in the public cemetery in the city. Expressions of grief and sympathy were offered from all quarters of the island. The appalling calamity fell upon the people of our country with crushing force, and for a brief time, under the influence of the excitement which prevailed, must have led to hasty acts of blind resentment. This spirit, however, soon gave way to the common process of reason, and to the resolve to investigate the facts and await material proof before forming a judgment as to the cause, responsibility, and, in fact, the warranted remedy due. This course necessarily recommended itself from the outset to the Executive, for only in the light of dispassionate certainty could it determine the nature and measure of its full duty in the matter. The unusual procedure was followed as in the case of casualty or destruction to national vessels of any maritime State. A naval court of enquiry was at once organized, composed of officers well qualified by rank and experience to discharge the onerous duty imposed upon them, and by a strong force of wreckers and divers, the court proceeded to make a thorough investigation on the spot, employing every available means for an impartial and exact determination of the cause of the explosion. Its operations have been conducted with the most deliberation, and, while independent-pursued, no source of information was neglected, and the fullest opportunity was allowed for a simultaneous investigation by the Spanish authorities. The findings of the court of inquiry were reached after 23 days of continuous labor, on the 21st day of March, and were approved on the 22nd by the Commander-in-chief of the naval forces of the North Atlantic station, and were transmitted to the Executive. It is herewith laid before congress, together with the voluminous testimony taken before the court. Its purport is in brief as follows:

"When the Maine arrived at Havana she was conducted by the regular government pilot to buoy No. 4, to which she was moored in from five and a half to six fathoms. The state of discipline on board, and condition of her magazines, boilers, coal bunkers, and steering compartments have been reviewed, with the conclusion that excellent order prevailed, and no indication of any cause for an internal explosion existed in any quarter. At 8 o'clock in the evening of Feb. 15th, everything had been reported secure, and all was quiet. At forty minutes past eight o'clock the vessel was suddenly destroyed. There were two distinct explosions with a brief interval between them. The first listed the forward part of the ship very perceptibly. The second, which was more prolonged, is attributed by the court to the partial explosion of two or more of the forward magazines.

The evidence of the divers establishes that the after part of the ship was practically intact, and she sank in that condition in a very few minutes after the explosion. The forward part was completely demolished.

Upon the evidence of the ground of external cause, the finding of the court is as follows:

"At frame 17 the outer shell of the ship, from point 1 1/2 feet from the middle line of the ship and six feet above the keel when in normal position, has been forced up so as to be about four feet above the surface of the water, therefore about thirty-four feet above where it would be had she sunk uninjured. The outside bottom plating is bent into a reverse V-shape, the left wing of which, about fifteen feet broad and thirty-two feet in length (from frame 17 to frame 25) is doubled back upon itself against a continuation of the same plating extended forward. At frame 18 the vertical keel is broken into a singular angle from off the outside plates, six feet above its normal position."

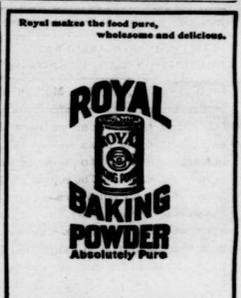
In their opinion this effect could have been produced only by an explosion of a mine situated under the bottom of the ship at about frame 18, and somewhat on the port side of the ship. The conclusions of the court are that the loss of the Maine was not in any respect due to the fault or negligence on the part of any of the officers or members of her crew; that the ship was destroyed by the explosion of a sub-marine mine, which caused a partial explosion of two or more of her forward magazines, and that no evidence is obtainable fixing the responsibility for the destruction of the Maine upon any person or persons.

I have directed that the findings of the court of inquiry, and the views of this government thereon, be communicated to the government of her majesty, the Queen, and I do not permit myself to doubt that the sense of justice of the Spanish nation will dictate a course of action suggested by honor and the friendly relations of the two governments. It is the duty of the executive to advise congress of the result, and in the meantime deliberate consideration is involved.

WILLIAM MCKINLEY.
In neither the senate or house was there any debate on the president's message or other documents.

Telephone message was issued for a special cabinet meeting, which gathered this afternoon.

Job printing at the Argus.



ROYAL BAKING POWDER CO., NEW YORK.

REDUCTION IN SHERIFF'S FORCE.

Commissioner Clayton Submits His Views on This Subject.

EDITOR ARGUS:—I desire a few lines in your paper to explain the reason for the reduction of the sheriff's force which action was taken at the last meeting of the board and which does not appear to be understood in some quarters.

To begin with I believe that the only way to manage county affairs is the same as in individual business—keep your credit good—and to get and keep all the funds of the county on a cash basis, which either requires an increase of taxation or the economizing of expenses. The former should never be considered so long as there is a chance to accomplish the latter without detriment to the service. And here is the question to be considered. Can three men perform all the duties of the sheriff's office.

I am led to believe they can, after an investigation in the counties of Yellowstone and Meagher, which, I believe, are both sixth class counties, the same as Fergus. In Meagher county the under sheriff acts as jailor and the sheriff has no other assistance whatever. In Yellowstone the sheriff is allowed an under sheriff and jailor, but the latter is in no sense an officer, and acts as jailor also and is paid only \$60 per month. It will be seen that so far as the active duties of the offices are concerned two men in each county perform them and it is my opinion that one extra man in Fergus county fully compensates for the greater extent of our territory, a large portion of which is so sparsely settled as to require the visit of an officer once a year.

Of course, no one can blame the sheriff for using all the deputies the board will allow and a former sheriff got very wrathly because his force was reduced. He was a Democrat, of course, and the most extravagant official this county ever had. From Republican officials we expect a better course, for, as a rule, they are intelligent and patriotic enough to realize that "he serves his party best who serves his country best."

It might be well enough in this connection to mention that either of the counties referred to above have a bonded indebtedness very much in excess of Fergus county's, Yellowstone's amounting to \$150,000 and Meagher's to \$180,000, as against \$103,000 for Fergus. The above figures do not include school bonds, which are, of course a matter of school districts and are about the same in each county. Meagher has a large fund in her treasury which could be applied to paying a part of her bonded debt but there is none of it yet due, and the Yellowstone commissioners at their last session transferred \$6,000 to the road fund and put it on a par basis, a step that our board could not take without probably bankrupting some other fund. It is probably far within the mark to say that Fergus county has more miles of public road than both of the above named counties and under any system they would always be an expensive proposition.

This being a county of magnificent distances makes the court expenses much heavier than in smaller counties, all of which goes to show the necessity for economy wherever possible.

DAN W. SLAYTON.



ONE ENJOYS

Both the method and results when Syrup of Figs is taken; it is pleasant and refreshing to the taste, and acts gently yet promptly on the Kidney, Liver and Bowels, cleanses the system effectually, dispels colds, headaches and fevers and cures habitual constipation. Syrup of Figs is the only remedy of its kind ever produced, pleasing to the taste and acceptable to the stomach, prompt in its action and truly beneficial in its effects, prepared only from the most healthy and agreeable substances, its many excellent qualities commend it to all and have made it the most popular remedy known.

Syrup of Figs is for sale in 50 cent bottles by all leading druggists. Any reliable druggist who cannot have it on hand will procure it promptly for any one who wishes to try it. Do not accept any substitutes.

CALIFORNIA FIG SYRUP CO. SAN FRANCISCO, CAL. LOWELL, MASS. NEW YORK, N.Y.