

AVANT COURIER.

JOSEPH WRIGHT, Editor.

FRIDAY, : : : MAY 8, 1874

MONTANA POLITICS.

The time is approaching when the citizens of this Territory will be called upon to determine the course of action for the election in August. In former numbers of the COURIER the opinion has been expressed that the next canvass should be conducted without any recognition of former party lines, and that men to be chosen should be INDEPENDENT of both organizations. The people ought to be convinced by this time that no good to the Territory has been done by adhering to either the Republican or Democratic parties. That the conventions held have not reflected the wishes of the people. That by money, fraud and treachery men have been chosen as candidates for Delegate to Congress that were not by any means the choice of the masses of either party. Then the men chosen for the Legislature have proved a disappointment, and wholly failed to carry out the wishes of the people by the enactment of useful laws. The last Legislature is an example of how little a Legislative body can do. It is regarded as having been one grand failure where much was expected. They were the creatures of the abominable convention system. We are thoroughly opposed to holding any more party conventions in Montana. We believe in mass meetings of the people where every voter has a voice in the selection of candidates to fill the offices. The people of Gallatin county got together in mass meeting last year and made selections of men they preferred, and were successful. The same thing can be done in every county in Montana, and until this is done, there will not be any real reform in the administration of public affairs. We think a return to the old plan of choosing men is far preferable. Let every man who aspires to serve the people and hold an office come out on his own hook—no matter if there be a dozen men for each office—and the people can choose their man. In this way there is no cheating as is done in conventions. Every aspirant should announce himself "as a candidate subject to the decision of the people at the polls on the first Monday in August." By doing this the elections will be free from corruption, and honest and good men will alone be chosen. If the people of Montana desire good laws to be enacted and the interests of the Territory promoted, they will abandon the system of conventions and in all Territorial affairs fling away party.

How are these conventions managed? A few leaders get together and run the whole machine. This has been the course since Montana has been a Territory. The people have had no control of them at all. They have been entirely ignored. This is too well known to be a fact to need elaboration. In every county after the adjournment of a convention such have been the disgusting and outrage of private rights that general indignation prevailed in the respective communities.

Fellow-citizens of Montana we appeal to you by every consideration connected with the public welfare and the interests of yourselves and your offspring to rise in your majesty and no longer be "hewers of wood and drawers of water" for party leaders. Throw off the yoke of party conventions, and rise in your own strength and power and be freemen. Too long you have borne with these abuses, and it is a solemn duty to your country to assert your independence. Take the management of your own affairs in your own hands and no longer be made tools and cats-paws to foster and promote men who have no regard for your welfare or that of the Territory, but are wholly engrossed in the promotion of their own selfish schemes. In the States the people are throwing aside party and uniting. They have taken the reins of power in their own hands and are welding them in the advancement of the public good. Reform of abuses is being executed and material prosperity advanced. By declaring themselves independent of old parties their interests are now having a show, and they have made monopolists tremble in their boots. The great work of the people is going on from Maine to California, and the country is beginning to recover from the stagnation produced by the oppressions of monopolies. The power of this Government instead of being in the hands of political parties is now with the people, and it is only necessary for the people of Montana to have full control of public affairs in this Territory, to throw off party allegiance, abandon the system of Conventions, and choose their own officers. In order to effect this desirable result, there should be union and concert in every county. Let a great PEOPLE'S MOVEMENT be inaugurated and put some hot-good and true men in office, whose watch word should be REFORM. By adopting this course, we believe the Territory will be freed from its present state of...

vance in prosperity will be substantial and rapid. We earnestly appeal to every citizen in Montana who has its welfare at heart to join in this great and glorious work. There is ample time to fully organize the movement, before the first Monday in August, so that none but true and competent men will be chosen as members of the Legislature and a Delegate to Congress. Let every true patriot who feels the necessity for reform go bravely to work to bring about so glorious a result, that will abound with so much real good to the whole Territory.

THE COUNTRY BELOW.

Parties who have returned from the Expedition to Tongue River all accord in one opinion—that the various valleys traversed by the Expedition represent the finest country they ever laid eyes upon. The grass is evidently developed even this early in the season to cut, and they are of the opinion that fruits of every kind could be cultivated successfully. Grape vines, plum trees, and a variety of small fruit trees were found in abundance. Ash and timber of a like character was noticeable. Minerals of every kind abound in the ledges skirting the valleys, and from what prospecting was done, there is no doubt of the existence of gold in paying quantities in many of the localities visited. As an agricultural country it stands unrivaled. The warm season there is evidently much longer than we have here, and the valleys are susceptible to the cultivation of cereals of every description. Vegetables requiring longer seasons of warmth than the present settled portions of Montana afford would thrive in the Yellowstone valley and the various tributaries putting into it. As a stock growing country it possesses superior advantages—mild, short winters, little snow and an abundance of grass.

Within a few short years, should the Northern Pacific Railroad fail to open up to settlement that desirable section, the hardy pioneers of the West will make an opening for the more timid immigrant from the East. Even ignoring its known mineral wealth, it possesses other and sufficient attractions to make its acquisition to the uses of the husbandman one of the necessities of the age, and Western enterprise will not allow such magnificent natural resources to remain undeveloped. Should the proposed military posts be established in that country, its speedy settlement would follow. The danger from Indians would be so modified to make it safe for small parties to prospect and work the mines there, and settlements for agricultural purposes would be made in the numerous rich valleys putting into the Yellowstone.

It is to be regretted that the late Expedition did not build stockades and hold the country. It would have been the nucleus of a general settlement of the country, and the red man, as in Kentucky, Indiana, and Ohio would have been compelled by moral force to have given way before the grand tidal wave of white immigration from the East and West. Thousands of persons in both sections have been anxiously waiting the results of the Expedition. Had the latter gotten a good foot-hold, tenable even for a short while, sufficient is known of the wonderful resources of the country, to have made it the signal for a grand rush, putting to flight the present impediment to its peaceful occupation.

However, the Expedition has not proven barren of desirable results, which will be made manifest in the near future.

Who Wants to Become a Navy Engineer?

Is there a Montana lad, "not less than sixteen nor more than twenty years of age," who aspires to become a candidate for Cadet Engineer in the U. S. Navy? If so, the candidate, after giving satisfactory evidence of moral character and health, educational advantages, &c., will receive permission to present himself to the Superintendent of the Naval Academy at Annapolis, Md., between the 15th and 25th of September next, for examination. We have a blank form of application and pamphlet of instructions, sent us by the Hon. Geo. M. Robeson, Secretary of the Navy, which the boy wanting to become a candidate and desiring full information on the matter, or have the above in a brief outline, can have by calling on the Herald office.

Geo. W. Fox & Co. have sold their stock of goods, together with the fixtures and good will of the establishment, to the enterprising firm of Martin & Co. who took possession this morning, and will immediately remove their stock from their stand to their new quarters. Mr. Geo. W. Fox has prepared and made money in Helena, and proposes to stay in the country, all of which we are pleased to hear.

YELLOWSTONE EXPEDITION.

To Hon. John P. Bruce, Permanent Chairman Yellowstone Wagon Road and Prospecting Expedition:

SIR—Since my last report several members of the Expedition have reached Bozeman, and the main body is rapidly moving in.

In the absence as yet of any official report I am unable to make the detailed statement promised, but shall within a few days present a full history of the movement toward Tongue river.

It is evident, however, from the statements made by those who have come in, that many wished to remain in the lower country—that it is a gold region—that it is as fine a section in all particulars as has been claimed—that good prospects were found—that the Indians will fight desperately to retain possession, but that a few hundred good men can defy the entire Sioux nation.

Our men have done well against large odds—have lived up to their agreements with the Committee, and return to us many of them determined yet to settle in the lower country.

That they are entitled to the thanks of the valley no one can doubt, and though they have returned without accomplishing the great object of the movement, they are entitled to great credit for the manner in which they did all they could under the circumstances.

As it may not prove wise to make up a report at present I decide to delay until I can see the Council and officers and obtain the report of the Expedition Secretary—that injustice may be done no member of the Command.

The Committee must add, however, its great regret over the failure to fortify and send in the courier as was agreed upon—had, or could, it have been done the best results would have followed both to us and to them.

For the Committee,  
J. V. BOGERT,  
Secretary and Treasurer.

BEER LODGE ITEMS.

[From the New North-West, May 24.]  
Mr. John H. Pemberton's thoroughbred horses are at Snake river awaiting the opening of the Pleasant Valley road.

The Rock Creek Ditch was carrying about 600 inches of water Monday. Rogers & Broadus and Battersen & Co. commenced mining that day.

A Chinese merchant on Third street has a stone store building almost completed. It is fire proof—so that fire originating inside cannot get out. There's public spirit for you.

The Flint Creek Ditch and Mining Company do not expect to be ready for mining until the last of May. The necessity of labor to complete the ditch causes the delay.

GRUBS THEY ARE.—The following was handed us on Tuesday with a nice lot of new potatoes ranging to the size of black walnuts: EDWIN NEW NORTH-WEST:  
Please accept a mess of New Potatoes, probably the earliest grown in this place.  
Respectfully,  
NORMAN SURRENANT.

April 23th.  
New potatoes in April, on the line of the Northern Pacific Railroad! Where is the tribulated Hazen and his zerole thermometer? Echo answers—"New potatoes in April!"

COX, KONGS' STOCK.—The owner of the biggest and best herd in Montana, who has expended many thousands of dollars in the importation and raising of thoroughbred cattle and who now claims to have the best herd of its size in America, offers in this issue to the notice of stock men a column advertisement of some of his cattle and horses. The pedigrees are given in full and will be verified by referring to the American Herd Book. He also offers for sale choice thoroughbred and half bred cattle, and work horses.

"The prospects are not so inviting" in some of the camps as could be desired. The snow is lighter than usual in many of them, and a rainy spring is all that will help matters. The water is starting very late, and the warm winds have licked up a great deal of the snow. At this time last year, the water was booming in the valley streams; now they have scarce started. We have heard it predicted, however, that notwithstanding these things, the gold yield of this country will be greater this year than last. "The consummation devoutly to be wished." The miners are using all the available water in the camps, and operations are pretty generally begun.

MISSOURIA ITEMS.

[From the Missourian, April 24.]  
Allen Bolox, Esq., writer Loomis Quartz Creek that the body of Dennis Downie, drowned Jan. 24th, has been found.

We learn that Major Shanahan has issued orders for all whites to leave the reservation after May 1st. A police of 20 Indians has been appointed to accompany the stock of whites found on the reservation. This order will compel the removal of a large number who are living there with Indians, &c. This order will also bring some valuable property within the county which has hitherto escaped assessment, and, we believe, prove better for both whites and Indians.

District Attorney Mayhew has given an opinion that the bridge fund can only be applied for the particular use specified in the act.

RIVER ITEMS.

The Kato F. Kozak, from St. Louis for Benton, arrived at noon Monday, and expected to leave at daylight this morning.

The Kato F. Kozak did not get away for Minon until about 1 o'clock Tuesday afternoon.

The Western, Capt. Wm. E. Hanks, with Surveyor Barlow as Clerk, arrived from St. Louis about 4 o'clock Sunday afternoon, on their way to Benton. The discharged about thirty tons of miscellaneous freight for St. Louis City merchants, and took on yesterday morning their three tons of Upper Missouri post goods.

The St. Louis Post & Courier for Benton of daylight Tuesday morning. —St. Louis City Journal, April 25th.

BY THE POWER.

A Fort Benton Enterprise—Buffalo Butter—40,000 Cow Power, Etc.

[From the St. Louis City Journal.]

Extra Journal.—Knowing your interest in the industries of the West, and particularly in those which are characterized by the expansive magnitude for which projects in this land of the setting sun are notorious, I would call your attention to an enterprise inaugurated at Fort Benton, Montana, by Col. Theo. C. Powers, who arrived in this city last Saturday night in a mackinaw direct from that zenith of navigation on the Upper Missouri. No brain could have conceived a speculation of such proportions without the assisting inspiration of the broad plains, high mountains, long river, and big hearts which left their impress of general grandeur upon everything in the vicinity of Fort Benton.

The Colonel has undertaken a project of no less importance than utilizing the latent product of a herd of buffaloes of 40,000 cow power, or 1 Contemplate for a moment the magnitude of this idea, and then tell us if its equal has ever entered the mind of man. His theory is that each cow can be depended upon for 4,000 pounds of butter per season, from which figures it is easy to compute that the herd will supply sufficient of the oleaginous substance to furnish fuel and light in the United States and New Jersey combined. The quality of the butter could not possibly be improved, and the luxury of lubricating your panicles with it may be looked forward to as one of the unspeakable benefits which the West and the nineteenth century have given to humanity.

The calves of the herd are to be fed on skim milk, and after a month's handling they become completely transmigrated from the alpine and tending bovine of the Western wilds to the quiet and docile "bos" of the barn-yard. With these young cattle he proposes to stock those sections of the country which may desire to introduce them, and we may soon expect to see in our own vicinity the shaggy necked herds whose absence has for years been compelled by that "star of empire" of which you have possibly heard.

Colonel Powers is now at the Hubbard House, where those who desire to learn more of the enterprise can do so by calling upon him and examining the specimens of the butter, of which he has brought a trunkful with him as a sample lot. He starts in a few days for Chicago, where he will make his headquarters at the Palmer House, whose table before long, no doubt, will give its patrons an opportunity to see how far "cholesterol" falls short of "butter."

BISMARCK.

The Bismarck Tribune comes to us this week enlarged to an eight-page paper, and the redoubtable Colonel Lounsbury is at the helm. It looks well and is full of news. The Northern Pacific Railroad is now running trains regularly to Bismarck, and that river metropolis is full of business and bustle.

We extract from the Tribune of the 10th of April the following:

During the months of June, July, August, September and October, of 1873, the freight business of the N. P. R. R. as shown by the books of the company at Bismarck station aggregated in round figures 2,000,000 pounds upon which the railroad received charges amounting to almost a quarter of a million of dollars.

In addition to the military, Indian and private freight of last season (which will undoubtedly be largely increased this season) there will be added the carrying trade of the company not less than twelve thousand tons of merchandise and machinery for the merchants and miners of Montana—on these and tons of which have already been contracted through from the cities of New York, Boston, Philadelphia, Chicago and St. Louis to points in that Territory, and consignments covering almost a thousand tons of this has already arrived here and is now awaiting shipment up the river.

The Northern Pacific Railroad has not been blockaded an hour during the past winter; the track from Jamestown to Fargo, one hundred miles, abandoned in November, was opened on the 16th of March, with only 24 hours labor.

The Peninah, Captain Murphy, left its winter quarters Monday, and is now at the levee loading for the Muschel. It will have Sunday for river. The Peninah is loaded with Montana freights and takes about 300 tons.

Captain Wm. Brathwaite, Superintendent of the Kountz Line of steamers, arrived at Bismarck Wednesday and is busily engaged preparing for the summer campaign.

The Fountnell will have Bismarck next week, Friday, for Benton.

Below will be found the passenger rates on the Missouri river from Bismarck to Carroll, Bismarck, &c.: Bismarck to Fort Benton, deck \$25, cabin \$30; to Carroll, local, deck \$12, cabin \$15; through deck \$14, cabin \$18; Fort Benton, deck \$12, cabin \$15; Fort Berthold, deck \$8, cabin \$10; Fort Stephen, deck \$5, cabin \$7. Returning the fare is as follows: Fort Benton to Bismarck, deck \$15, cabin \$20; from Carroll, deck \$12, cabin \$15; from Fort Peck, deck \$12, cabin \$15; Fort Berthold, deck \$8, cabin \$10; Fort Stephen, deck \$5, cabin \$7.

Some two hundred claims have been taken in the vicinity of Bismarck, the past few months, nearly every claim in four-tenths having been taken, many claims have also been jumped.

At the election in Bismarck, last week, there were 300 voters polled, including in that village a population of over one thousand. At the election last fall 400 votes were polled in the city, and many new settlers have since come in.

It is stated in the North-West that the farmers of Deer Lodge valley are pouring up young grasshoppers. This should not frighten anybody, for all the entomologists, and bug-slayers and specialists, who have made this subject a specialty, tell us that these birds plant for the next year's crop in fact take and dry place.

Established in 1837.  
N. E. DAVIS, Bozeman.  
J. ELLIS, New York.  
**ELLIS & DAVIS,**  
WHOLESALE AND RETAIL DEALERS IN  
**STAPLE AND FANCY  
DRY GOODS,**  
MILLINERY GOODS,  
**HOSIERY, NOTIONS, &c.**  
GENTS AND BOYS'  
**Clothing & Furnishing Goods**  
OF THE LATEST STYLES always on hand.  
Hats and Caps, Men's and Boys' Boots and Shoes, Ladies' Misses' and Children's Shoes and Calcers.  
A complete assortment of  
**FANCY & STAPLE GROCERIES,  
WINES & LIQUORS**  
of the best importation. A full assortment of HARDWARE, CROCKERY and GLASS-WARE, MINING and FARMING IMPLEMENTS, and everything that is generally found in a first-class store.  
We buy County and Territorial Warrants at all times.  
PRODUCE of all kinds taken in exchange for Goods.  
**ELLIS & DAVIS.**

**Murphy, Neel & Co.**  
WHOLESALE AND RETAIL  
**GROCERS,**  
And Liquor Dealers,  
Main Street, - - HELENA, M. T.  
Have always on hand the LARGEST STOCK and  
**Best Assortment in Montana**

**Clarke, Conrad & Curtin,**  
Nos. 52, 54 and 56 Main Street,  
HELENA, MONTANA.  
To the General Hardware Trade:  
We would most respectfully say that our Stock of  
Heavy Shelf and Building  
**Hardware,**  
Stoves, Nails,  
Bar Iron,  
Pick and Drill Steel,  
Horse and Mule Shoes,  
NORTH-WESTERN HORSE NAILS,  
GLASS AND QUEENSWARE, MIRRORS,  
Wood and Willow Ware,  
Tin, Japanned and Stamped Ware,  
Is complete and on the market at BOTTOM RATES.  
Respectfully,  
Clarke, Conrad & Curtin.

**FIRST NATIONAL BANK OF HELENA.**  
Designated Depository of United States  
S. S. BAUER, President  
S. H. HALL, Vice President  
J. G. GIBSON, Cashier  
T. M. REISENBERRY, Asst. Cashier  
Authorized Capital, \$500,000  
Paid up Capital, 100,000  
Permanent Surplus Fund, 50,000  
Profits, in excess of \$50,000  
Surplus, 6,000  
Dividend paid March 4, 1874, 30,000  
Surplus after paying dividend, 56,000  
Average Deposits preceding six months, 485,000  
Invested in U. S. Bonds, 214,000  
We present a General Building Business and pay at the highest rates.  
**Gold Dust, Coin, GOLD AND SILVER BULLION, AND LOCAL SECURITIES.**  
AND BELL  
**Exchange and Telegraphic Transfers**  
available in all parts of the United States, the Kingdom of Great Britain, Ireland and the Continent.  
Collections made and proceeds remitted promptly.  
DIRECTIONS:  
S. T. HANSON, B. Stickney, Jr.,  
M. Moore, S. M. Hall,  
Jno. H. Bling, John Curran,  
J. E. Blaine, D. C. Corbin,  
F. L. Warden.  
**SETTLE UP!**  
All persons knowing themselves indebted to the undersigned are requested to come forward immediately and settle and save costs.  
H. ARNOLD.  
Jan. 20th 1874  
Jan. 20th 1874  
All persons indebted to MARTIN & CO. are requested to come forward and settle without delay and save costs.

**PEOPLES NATIONAL BANK OF HELENA.**  
Paid in Capital, - \$100,000  
Authorized Capital, 500,000  
We Draw Exchange on =  
Deer Lodge, Virginia City, Bozeman, Corvallis, Salt Lake City, San Francisco, Omaha, St. Louis, Chicago, New York, Montreal.  
And all the Principal Cities of Europe.  
G. W. FOX, President.  
C. J. LYSER, Cashier.  
**Directors.**  
Geo. W. Fox, L. M. Black,  
Alex. H. Beattie, Wm. A. Cheesman,  
William Roe, C. J. Lyser,  
Corvallis Hoopes, Henry Klein,  
Nick Kessler.  
ASSOCIATED BANK:  
**FIRST NATIONAL BANK OF BOZEMAN.**  
**NOTICE.**  
All persons indebted to MARTIN & CO. are requested to come forward and settle without delay and save costs.

**Rich & Willson,**  
Successors to Rich, Willson & Co.,  
DEALERS IN GENERAL MERCHANDISE AND FREIGHTERS,  
Corner Main and Dearman Streets,  
BOZEMAN, MONTANA.  
AGENTS FOR THE  
Wells, Fargo & Co., The Diamond and Glass Co.,  
Wholesale and Retail Stage Lines, and the Diamond and Glass Co.,  
AGENTS FOR THE  
ALDEN EVAPORATED FRUITS AND VEGETABLES,  
Caldwell & Ten Broeck Canning and Baking (the only reliable carriage for the mountains), in for  
I. C. Power & Co's, Agricultural implements.  
We have just received and are offered at Wholesale for Cash,  
**The Largest and Best Selected STOCK OF GOODS**  
ever on Exhibition in this Market.  
Our stock of  
**Staple & Fancy GROCERIES**  
is complete, and selling at lower rates than by House in the Territory.  
**EVERY DEPARTMENT COMPLETE**  
HARDWARE, FARMING UTENSILS, HOUSE FURNISHING GOODS, LAMPS, MINERS' TOOLS, RUBBER GOODS, HATS & CAPS, BOOTS & SHOES, CLOTHING, GENT'S FURNISHING GOODS, STATIONERY, NOTIONS, etc., etc.  
the celebrated Main and Wadsworth  
**HARNESSES, SADDLERY,**  
Saddlers' Hardware,  
and American Whip Company's Whips and Lines.  
A full assortment of  
CUTTING & CO'S CANNED GOON  
the celebrated  
ALDEN FRUITS & VEGETABLES,  
and  
California Dried Fruits.  
OUR MOTTO:  
Quick Sales and Small Profits.  
Believing that extended credit has raised the prospects of many of our citizens and patrons, we agree to sell and ship strictly adhere to the "Cash System," or such exchange as we can readily convert into Cash.  
CHAS. RICH, L. S. WADSWORTH.

**St. Louis Hotel,**  
Between Main and Jackson streets, front entrance on Main and rear entrance on Jackson street,  
HELENA, MONTANA  
Sam Schwab, Proprietor  
WM. SIMS, JOHN WILLIS, Clerks.  
**THE ST. LOUIS HOTEL IS**  
First-Class in all its Appointments.  
Its tables are at all times supplied in the greatest abundance with all the delicacies the market affords. Its clerks and employees are polite and attentive to the wants of the guests of the hotel.  
Daily Arrivals and Departures by the Hotel of Gilmer & Hainbury's all U. S. Mail Coaches.  
**A. M. Holter & Bro.**  
Have on hand a large stock of  
**Lumber, Lath and Shingles,**  
For sale at low prices. We keep a full stock of  
**Doors, Blinds & Glazed Window Sash,**  
which we ship to any part of the Territory country packed.  
Main Street, HELENA, M. T.  
C. W. Cannon, H. Cannon,  
**CANNON BROS.,**  
Wholesale and Retail  
**GROCERS**  
AND  
**Provision Dealers**  
Agents for  
California Powder Works and Safety Fuse  
Next 75 Main Street,  
HELENA, MONTANA.  
**FERDINAND ENGELFRIED,**  
Main Street, BOZEMAN, M. T.  
Manufacturer and Dealer in  
**HARNESSES,**  
Saddles, Bridles, &c.  
**BUGGIES TRIMMED**  
In the Neatest and Best Style  
**DON L. BYAM,**  
ELECTRIC PHYSICIAN.  
At his residence on Middle Street.  
VERMILION BATTERS, by the bottle or by all the leading Patent Medicines, as the drug store of W. W. Morris, Bozeman.