

THE AVANT COURIER.

The Pioneer Paper of Eastern Montana.

FRIDAY, MARCH 31, 1876.

Lieut.-Governor Davis, of Mississippi has been impeached.

W. N. Byers, editor of the Rocky Mountain News, of Denver, is a candidate for Governor of Colorado.

A son of James Lick, the California philanthropist, has recovered a judgement against his father for \$3,285 for services.

A snow slide occurred at Ophir, Utah, on the 14th, carrying away the "Poor man" boarding house, killing three men.

Soon the tocsin of war will resound in the lower Yellowstone country. Already have the Indians commenced their murderous work in the Black Hills. A raid was recently made by them on Custer City, resulting in the death of one man and running off the stock of the miners. A party of whites went in pursuit. The Indians retreated in the direction of the Red Cloud Agency. Crook and Custer will soon be in the field from the East, and the gallant Gibbon from the West. A military force will be concentrated in the country, the policy of which we are led to believe will be aggressive, sufficient to teach the bloody-handed Sioux a lesson they are likely not to forget soon.

The editor of the Times regards the petition published in the Helena papers in opposition to the N. P. R. R. Act as evidence of that paper, which stands almost alone among the press of Montana in support of that measure. How long, how long. The Times remained neutral during the proclama of bills before the Legislature, and after the passage of the Northern Pacific bill and the rejection of the proposition to aid the Utah Northern, by the managers of that road, at the eleventh hour, and that to the support of the former. And that, too, after a vain effort to sell out to the Utah Northern, check corruption, mendacity, where is the blush? Can such a conglomerate of meanness exist and have a name and local habitation in this respectable community. The editor says it is only ninety days to live. It has outlived its usefulness. Let it die the ignominious death its pretence deserve. It is morally dead, and has only to give a few spasmodic kicks to render it literally so.

It will be a matter of astonishment to the readers of the New North-West, which has heretofore been a champion of the Northern Pacific R. Road, to learn that its antagonism to the at bill passed by the recent Legislature is only equalled by the Ring organ of Helena, the Independent. The Northern Pacific, which will pass through Deer Lodge, as well as Missoula, is the only road that will be a direct benefit to the West. The hostility of the Missoulian and the North-West cannot therefore be accounted for, except upon the hypothesis of the monied influence of the Helena Ring. We have regarded our friend Missoula as corruptible, but he will have to clean up.

"Louie," a Meadow Creek correspondent of the Helena Herald, has this paragraph in his last letter:

"The most decided opposition to railroads, however, comes from men who have abundance of money to loan at exorbitant rates of interest. They are free to assert that 'what goods they want' they can get and pay for by wagon freight. Yes, indeed! They live for no one but self; for nothing but the accumulation of money and acres. Their horizon is dimmed by interest."

Just so. Those who have no prospective interests in the Territory, further than opposing those in need, with exorbitant interest on their present capital, do not wish for a prosperity that will relieve the poor from their present oppressions.

For some time past the different Granges of this County have been discussing the advisability and propriety of aiding and taking an active part in getting up an Agricultural Fair for Madison County, to be held some time next fall. Last Monday evening an informal meeting of Patrons from many parts of the county, was held in this city to further discuss the matter. It was the opinion of the meeting that an Agricultural Fair would be beneficial to the county, and that the Fair could and should be gotten up by non-communists as well as Patrons. The hearty co-operation of all interested would make a Fair a success. The initial steps will be taken to agitate the matter all over the county, and it is proposed to call a public meeting soon to perfect plans and arrangements. If this movement is started in time, and the proper direction given to it, we can have a good Fair next fall. [Madisonian]

"But, boys, you know, Tom, like pigs, do no pay rent."

The Times man, taken out of the slough of poverty by Col. Black and given the gratuitous use of the old printing materials purchased the citizens of Bozeman seven years ago at current rates and afterwards bought up at fifty cents on the dollar by Col. Black, and for the use of which we paid almost double its cost, comes to the front and says we had better pay our rent and not trouble ourselves about his.

In alluding to the matter, we only desired to show that our neighbor was the tool of others—possibly by the force of circumstances—but, more probably by his taste, fawning cussedness. He says he can publish his paper ten years with the same family—four in number—to do the work and live on "rent" and "dividends," nor buy paper, ink and other things necessary to run a newspaper, will Col. Black?

Ten men arrived here last evening, direct from Custer City. They report that the weather and good roads. When they left there 250 houses completed and occupied at Custer.

A private letter to an attaché of the Legation, from a Philadelphia gentleman that the Black Hills are "forming up big" in the Quaker City, and all the New England and Middle States. He estimates that fully 50,000 Philadelphians are preparing to come west soon, and a ship will go to the Hills. [Cleveland Leader, March 11.]

POLITICAL.

We regard the approaching canvass for President as the most important that has ever occurred in the American Union. The election of Lincoln plunged the country into civil war, from the effects of which she has not recovered. His untimely death resulted in the attempted impeachment of Andrew Johnson, who succeeded him as Vice President. This attempt bore its fruits of evil. Had Johnson been left alone, he would have carried out the policy of Mr. Lincoln, whose desire was to reclaim the country, and establish it upon its former basis, the slavery question having been settled in the freedom of the negroes, which was the leading issue of war.

The history of the country, before the present party came into power, has no parallel where a political power has reigned over twelve years. It is necessary for the promotion of a healthy growth of the country, especially one under a Republican form of government, that the parties should be as nearly equally divided as possible, in order to secure justice to the people. The axiom of a house divided against itself must lose its virtue in this case. It has been demonstrated that all parties, Whigs, Democrats and Republicans, prove their corruption by an undisputed lease of power. Late developments have made this apparent to every eye. While we believe Gen. Grant has a right to the best Presidency we have ever had, it has not been in his power to control the actions of his subordinates. His appointments were made with a view to their fitness for the positions assigned them and their integrity and honesty in discharging the duties pertaining to the same, we do not doubt. But many of them have proved recreant to the trusts reposed in them. Like the beautiful lily, standing forth in its purity, when the sunlight of heaven gives it strength, they have fallen into the slough by the action of the first storm, which is sure to overtake those who would build their fame at the expense of the people.

The extravagance of Washington society is no excuse for the pecuniations of public officials. These things will lead to strengthening the Democracy in the approaching campaign. A majority of the Grangers are evidently with that party. Indignation will be sprung for the purpose of diverting attention from the real issues before the country. But the time is near at hand, and the people have in their power to settle the matter, when we shall have a government—honest in its purpose and exercised in the interest of those who support it.

CROW RESERVATION.

The Order of Revocation.

[OFFICIAL CORRESPONDENCE.]

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,

WASHINGTON, March, 1876.

To Hon. Martin Maginnis, House of Representatives.

SIR:—This Department is in receipt by Executive reference of a communication addressed by you under date of the 14th of January last to the President, enclosing a petition from citizens of Montana for the revocation of the order extending the

The matter having been presented to this Department for its action, a letter was addressed on the 17th inst. to the President recommending that the action above indicated be taken and an Executive Order has this day been received in accordance therewith, revoking the order in question and restoring the said tract to the public domain (said order is dated on the 8th inst.).

A letter has been this day addressed to the Governor of Montana, by this Department from which the following is an extract: "As the country described was ceded to the Crow R. Serv. solely for the purpose of terminating the pernicious traffic in liquors, carried on with the Indians, and the Department is satisfied on the part of the citizens of Montana to assist in its suppression. I beg to suggest that the Legislative Assembly will co-operate with the Department, by enacting such prohibitory law as may best subserve the purpose."

I have the honor to be, Respectfully, Yours, Z. CHANDLER, Secretary.

While I am satisfied that you will perform your duties according to the spirit and language of your oath, I deem it proper to advise you to examine the motives of persons who appear to be eager and zealous to procure the indorsement of bills. The interests of men are often, and at times to gratify malicious and unbecoming enmities, and nobleness of purpose has surmounted the frail obstacles thrown in his path by the weak enemies who would have averted his efforts which have tended to the general prosperity of the community.

The Black Hills.

[From the Cheyenne Leader, March 11.] Several bands of Indians which have left the settlements on the Platte, above Julesburg, or some months past, have suddenly cleared out for the north, and it is suspected that they have had marching orders from Sitting Bull or Spotted Tail.

Mrs. Salisbury & Patrick, who have been engaged in the stage business in Montana for some years, have taken hold of the Cheyenne & Black Hills stage here, and will soon commence operations on a large scale. This they are fully able to do as they propose to invest \$100,000 in the business.

A daily line will be put on between Cheyenne and Custer on April 1st. Arrangements have been made with the Union Pacific to sell through tickets from all points in the States to Custer City. The rates of fare will be low, and three classes of tickets will be sold—first, second and third class.

Notes on Our Trip to Fort Pease.

Crow Agency, M. T., March 20th, 1876.

To the Editor Avant Courier:

Gen. Brisson, commanding at Ft. Ellis, having received orders to proceed to the relief of Ft. Pease, set out with four companies of cavalry with all necessary equipments and supplies. About 20 citizens of Bozeman joined his command. He forwarded his Adjutant—Lt. Scofield—with a dispatch to Gen. Clapp, Agent for the Crow Indians, with a request that he furnish 20 men and some Indians. Volunteers were called for and the request promptly responded to. Twenty-three citizens, 34 Indians and two teams were quickly in readiness for the trip. On the afternoon of February 29th we started for the mouth of the Stillwater, 15 miles distant, to join Gen. Brisson and command and the rest of the sage brush volunteers, accompanied by numerous friends, Indians and squaws included, to take a last glance, perhaps a parting tear and catch a coil, over the departure of the loved and brave ones who were risking life and liberty to run the gauntlet in order to save the daring pioneers who were supposed to be surrounded by a large body of Sioux warriors at Ft. Pease.

Gen. Brisson and command did not arrive until the 27th at 3 p. m.; thus we lay in camp all day. At 2 p. m. C. L. Clark and F. M. Murray arrived from Bozeman. Up to this time, Gen. Clapp is believed going with us, but owing to pressing business was compelled to return to the Agency.

Nine p. m.—E. A. Jacobs arrived from the Agency. When within 1/2 mile of the camp he upset the ambulance, got a leg fractured, one finger broken and other members badly bruised.

Feb. 28th, 9:30 a. m.—Command moved. 12 m.—Crossed to north side of Yellowstone river and enter what is known as the head of the Big Bottom of the Yellowstone valley. This valley is narrow here, some good meadow land close to the river, timber plenty for general purposes. Mr. Crow chiefs, Bull and Crazy Head, with their camps en route for the Agency. They report the Sioux camp on Touge river.

2 p. m.—Went into camp at Bull's Bend on the river, 18 miles from Stillwater. 20th.—Broke camp at 8:30 a. m. The valley begins to widen from this camp downward. Four miles travel brings us opposite Crownhead Butte. This is a prominent butte, and stands out from the main range of bluffs that border the valley. Thirteen miles brings us opposite Clark's Fork of the Yellowstone.

2:30 p. m.—Went into camp close to Canyon Creek (ry channel). John Rouns and Tom LeFoyge, runners from the Crow Agency to the Crow camp, went on board the steamer Josephine at this point last summer. The boat reached a point about three miles up the river from here. This valley will average about seven miles in width, between the bluffs. The river hugs the bluff on the south side. Timber is plenty along the river—none of value on the bluffs. Traveled 20 miles.

March 1, 8:20 a. m.—Pulled out. 11 a. m.—Reached the great flat top of Big Bottom, 10 miles; went on top of Agate Bluff to await the arrival of the steamer. The bluffs are high, rugged bluffs. The bluffs come close together at this point. The river leaves the southern bluffs and hugs the northern. The bottom on the south is narrow.

12 m.—Train arrives. We leave the Bottom and ascend to high table or bench land; thence down to river to Baker's battle ground, 6 miles. This is located in a narrow bottom in a bend of the river. There are two dug outs or under ground cabins on the bank of the river, occupied by George Heronson and one other man. They join the expedition. We jog along for three miles and reach the lower end of this bottom and cross the Yellowstone to south side and into camp one mile below. As the stock was driven to water the ice gave way and one mule and two horses got in, but were saved by ropes. Three Government horses were drowned. Captain Jackson deserves special mention for his action in rescuing the stock. This camp is noted for a severe battle between the Sioux and Crow Indians a few years ago. The Crows were surrounded, and dog pits put their children in so that the Sioux bullets could not kill them.

March 2, 9:15 a. m. One mule brought us to Pryor's creek, and at 11 m. we reached dry crossing of Arrow creek and reached for lunch, traveled eight miles in the afternoon and went into camp by Pompey's Pillar. This is a high, rocky bluff about 100 yards by 80 at the base and about 160 feet high; three sides are perpendicular; the east or lower side is open in broken masses and is only accessible from that side. It resembles a high front of Scotch cap. It stands alone and has no connection whatever with any range of bluffs. Pompey's Valley, which we have traveled through today, extends some five or six miles below this and will average about four miles wide. Gen. Brisson sent out B. Provo with a party of Crow Indians as scouts. 6 p. m.—They return, but saw no Sioux nor fresh signs; saw large herds of buffalo and elk.

March 3.—Command moved at 8 a. m. We cross the Yellowstone at Pompey's Pillar to north side and take the Crazy Man's cut off over a high, rolling, hilly country, running back from the river some five or six miles. About 250 yards from the crossing we intersect the Stanley road. 11 a. m.—Had a dry. Sioux camp. 6 p. m.—Went into Dry Camp on Drayton Point, at the foot of a high range. Land of no comparative value; no timber—no water. Traveled 25 miles.

March 4.—Left camp at 7 a. m.; traveled over a high table land. Eight miles brings us into camp for a couple of hours to water and feed the stock. Thence pass down through a narrow bottom to lower end; thence to north side of river; ascend to high, rolling bluffs. One mile brings us to opposite the mouth of the Big Horn river; one mile more, we descend to Fort Pease. The star spangled banner is visible in the distance, floating gaily in the breeze. At 3:30 p. m. we reached the Fort and got into camp. Not a Sioux or sign of Indians was seen on the trip up far, but the boys did not, ran the gauntlet, charged gallantly and captured, without loss, three barrels of cold poison, or wusky, and a dead and now quite comfortably.

OUR WASHINGTON LETTER.

Special Correspondence of Courier.

WASHINGTON, D. C., March 8, 1876.

Excuse me, will you? I don't want to write any more about it. I am tired and the Black Hill case is all over. It is occupying the thoughts and minds of the people here, so that nothing else is talked of. Go to the hotels, Waldorf's or the National, where crowds do congregate and every body is talking about the Black Hill case. Call on your Senator or Representative and you are greeted with something about the "Belknap case." Visit a private man and the ladies will either rejoice or bewail the fall of Mrs. Belknap. The "old" told you so" prophets are repeating of you what they said a year, or two years, or six months ago. The correspondence quoting things they did not, but claim to have written months ago. The opposition papers are pointing to their vague assertions of corruption such as are already made by the "out" and with an infinitely wise look, tell how they pointed to this particular case long ago. I am sick of it. I wish we could have an earthquake, or a moon, or something else dreadful, to distract the attention of the war-mongers. Anything for a change. "I've with I've done" or could get up enough courage to go and hear Hammond and Butler, our imitators of Moody and Sankey. But I have always been prejudiced against attending to the vanity of those who speak of these men. I would like to inquire why it is that the newspapers make so much of them. They are doubtless good men and desire to do good, but so far as I can learn of their proceedings, they are simply engaged in trying to frighten children and weak-minded people with horrible stories of a lake of infernal fire, where those unfortunates, called souls, are to be burned forever and ever. It may be all right, but I don't see the utility of such work.

The weather is magnificent. Never in the recollection of the oldest inhabitant has there been such a winter and spring. The streets are crowded with gaily dressed ladies. Hundreds, yes thousands passed up the Avenue Monday and Tuesday to be present when the State as a high court of impeachment was expected to meet to sit in the trial of Belknap. It was a beautiful sight to see the fair dames and demurettes hurrying on to get seats where they could watch the trial which consigns a man and woman to infamy. I observed that each of the fair ones had provided herself with an extra pocket handkerchief to wipe away the tears she expected shed. This case comes in very handy during Lent. We can't go to parties or out of town, but we can listen on scandal. VIVA LA BAGATELLE.

They were disappointed on Monday in the Judiciary Committee was not ready to report, and the work was had for nothing. What a blessing. There is a slight fall going on here about the finance question. It is a really amusing to sit by and watch it. The play is delicious. Not from a political standpoint, for I don't see how it can be, but from its independent, don't-care-a-thing, or is it is difficult to see how the habit of every Monday could ever get to be a habit of the street or at the hotels to "listen to the 'fer-nance' doctors as they discourse learnedly (3) upon the evils under which the country labors, and the remedy that should be applied. Each one of them is like a corn salve peddler, and has a sure cure—the only relief he promises—the great proprietary restorer warranted to cure all the ills that flesh is heir to, without the owners name written across the label or blown in the glass bottles. These "fer-nance" doctors generally know as much about the subjects as the corn-doctors of anatomy and are quacks of the latest sort. They, country politicians and lawyers, pretend to understand the principles of political economy which require a life-long study from men of real ability. They ought to be spanked for their impudence.

Butlers are flying around about other officials beside Belknap being guilty of a high crime as he, but I make it a rule never to believe or retail these slanders. It is bad enough to have to tell of them when they are proven without guessing at them before that time. The Democrats scored one in the House when they caught Belknap, and now they are looking for a better case on which to make a home-run.

The Republicans in France have a clear majority of both houses of the assembly, though there are 100 determined and organized Bonapartists in the lower house, led by C. Zagre and Rouhier, who will make it lively for Gambetta as it his followers, for it is pretty certain that he will snatch the reins of leadership from Thiers. The Turkish Insurgents refuse to accept the terms offered by Turkey and declare they will "fight it out on that line it takes all summer." Good luck to them and you, says SAXON.

THE SUCCESSFUL PHYSICIAN. From the St. Louis Globe. There is probably no man to whom the community owe so much as to the honest, fair-spoken physician, who does his actual duty both to himself and to his patients. Really skillful physicians are not so numerous that their virtues need no mention, and hence the advertisement of Dr. R. V. Pierce, of Buffalo, may claim the reader's attention. Dr. Pierce is a type of a class of men who oblige, not attempting too much, or creating false ideas as to ability. The only real disorders and high pressure (impure) "Specialist," the man who understands his one branch of the business, benefit of his readers he has written a well worth reading by which such a work. With strict business honor, and a large corps of competent assistants, Dr. Pierce will doubtless make his name familiar as "household words."

A New York belle who was purchasing some gloves, told the clerk she was tired and suggested "infernal rat" as a substitute, she was discharged.

Terrific Boiler Explosion.

Lutania, Mo., March 23. About 4 o'clock this morning, a boiler in the Pacific Company's mill, at this place, exploded with terrible force, completely wrecking the south side of the mill. Four men were instantly killed, and ten others wounded seriously. The explosion occurred after the night hands had gone home, and before the morning men were in, so that less than 20 persons were in the mill at the time, nearly every one of whom was either killed or wounded. The boiler was carried through the stone wall of the mill and out a quarter of a mile on the prairie. The following is a list of the killed: Richard Riley, Harry Miner, James Power, Wm. Warfield. Seriously wounded—James Craven, Geo. Shannessy, Robert McLean, William A. Thomas. Four others were slightly wounded.

One of the wounded, Michael Buckley, has since died, and two more will probably die. Every one of the killed had families in Lutania. The wounded have been taken to the Sister's hospital here. The damages are estimated at \$15,000. The cause of the explosion has not been ascertained.

"The Black Hills Pioneer" is the name of the first paper to be published in the Black Hills, by Laughlin & Merritt. The material is now en route for the field of operation. Mr. Merritt is well known to many people in Montana. He worked for us on the Montana D. M. R. at Virginia City in 1867, and afterwards at Helena. He is a good printer and a man who deserves success.

The lady who fell back on her dignity came near or akiaz it; and the man who couldn't stand it any longer has taken a three barrels of cold poison, or wusky, and a dead and now quite comfortably.

Black Hill Miners on the War Path.

A SEVERE BATTLE.

Thirteen Savages and one White Man Wounded.

Ft. Laramie, Wyo.

News was brought in last night by a party from Custer City of a fight between the miners and Indians on Deadwood Creek, 60 miles north of Custer. The miners attacked the Indians and killed 13 of them. One white man was killed. The Indians had been running off the stock. More trouble is expected. Hill City, near the center of the Black Hills, has been burned by the Indians. The inhabitants succeeded in escaping. Hill City is nine miles north of Harney's Peak.

NOTICE.

U. S. INT'L REVENUE

Special Taxes.

MAY 1, 1876, TO APRIL 30, 1877.

The Revised Statutes of the United States, Sections 3232, 3237, 3238 and 3239, require every person engaged in any business, vocation, profession, occupation, trade or profession, to pay a Special Tax TO PRODUCE AND PLACE CONSIGNMENT IN HIS ESTABLISHMENT OR PLACE OF BUSINESS A STAMP denoting the payment of said Special Tax for the Special Tax Year beginning May 1, 1876, before commencing or continuing business after April 30, 1876. The taxes embraced within the provisions of the law above quoted are the following, viz: Refiners..... \$200 00 Dealers, retail liquor..... 25 00 Dealers, whole sale liquor..... 100 00 Dealers in malt liquors, wholesale..... 50 00 Dealers in malt liquors, retail..... 25 00 Retail dealers in leaf tobacco..... 500 00

Dealers in manufactured tobacco..... 5 00 Manufacturers of cigars..... 20 00 And for each mill manufactured..... 10 00 Manufacturers of cigars..... 10 00 Peddlers of tobacco, first class (more than two hours or other animals)..... 50 00 Peddlers of tobacco, second class (two hours or other animals)..... 25 00 Peddlers of tobacco, third class (one horse or other animal)..... 15 00 Peddlers of tobacco, fourth class (on foot or public conveyance)..... 10 00 Brewers of less than 500 barrels..... 50 00 Brewers of 500 barrels or more..... 100 00

A person, so liable, who shall fail to comply with the foregoing regulations will be subject to severe penalties. Persons or firms liable to pay of the Special Taxes imposed by the act of Internal Revenue, of the 3rd of March, 1876, and without further notice.

D. D. PRAY, Commissioner of Internal Revenue, Office of Internal Revenue, Washington, D. C.

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Arrears of Pay and Bounty.

All OFFICERS, SOLDIERS and SAILORS of the late war, or their heirs, are in many cases entitled to money from the Government of which they have no knowledge. Write full history of service, and state amount of pay and bounty received. Enclose stamp to Gilmore & Co., and a full reply, after examination, will be given you free.

Pensions.

Officers, Soldiers, and Sailors wounded, captured, or injured in the late war, how ever slightly, can obtain a pension by addressing Gilmore & Co.

Cases prosecuted by Gilmore & Co. before the Supreme Court of the United States, the Court of Claims, and the Southern Claims Commission. Each department of our business is conducted in a separate bureau, under charge of the same experienced parties employed by the old firm. Prompt attention to all business entrusted to Gilmore & Co. is thus secured. We desire to win success by deserving it. GILMORE & CO., Washington, D. C.

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Rheumatism, Burns, Scalds, Bruises, Cuts, Frost bites, Swellings, Contracted Cords, Pain in the Back, Lumbago, Sciatica, Gout, Gravel, Strains, Stiff Joints, Sprains, Nipples, Eruptions, Pains, Wounds, Ulcers.

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Spavins, Galls and Sores, Swainy, Ring Bone, Windfalls, Big Head, Poll Ring, Humors and Sores, Lameness, Swellings, Scratches, Distemper, Scurfiness, Strains, Soreheads, Open Sores.

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