

THE AVANT COURIER.

The Pioneer Paper of Eastern Montana.

FRIDAY, JUNE 2, 1876.

The farmers in Colorado are making war on the grasshoppers.

The President has remitted Merritt C. Page as United States Attorney for Montana.

The daily attendance of visitors to the Centennial Exposition is from 20,000 to 30,000 persons.

A veteran of 1812 the other day started to walk from Utes, N. Y., to the Philadelphia Centennial. He evidently has more pluck than money.

The Omaha Herald says, by way of illustrating Sioux City enterprise: Sioux City is building a railroad to Oregon, with branches to connect with the moon.

The people of Colorado will vote upon the adoption or rejection of the State Constitution framed by the State convention at Denver, in December last, on the first day of July next.

The first number of the Black Hills Weekly Miner, under date of April 29th, made its appearance at Custer City with the name of J. Q. Adams Brinsley as editor.

Two men in Colorado were recently thrown from a buggy on the summit of a mountain, and rolled and tumbled down three hundred feet, and strange to say were not seriously injured by the fall.

A Fort Laramie dispatch of the 19th says: It is understood here that Gen Crook has ordered the troops now on the Yellowstone to move directly to the forks of Powder river, where he will form a junction with them, and the combined force will move upon the Indians.

The almost impassable condition of the road between Fort Benton and Helena, rendered so by the late storms, and an insufficient number of trains, are causing a delay in the transportation of freight overland, and a large amount has accumulated at the head of navigation.

Blaine seems to be the favorite of the Republicans as their standard-bearer in the approaching Presidential campaign, and Tilden leads the Democratic hosts. There may be a Great Unknown, however, that will supplant each of the present popular aspirants. Such seems to be Mr. Blaine's only fear.

Specials from twelve places, representing nearly the whole of Kansas, show the wheat crop to be universally better than ever before and at least 20 per cent, an average more than last year. About 10 per cent. of last year's crop is on hand. The preparations for corn planting shows that there will be a much larger acreage, probably 25 per cent., than last year. Planting is late.

Gen. T. L. Rosser, H. H. Brackett and M. M. Fuller needn't wait till the cows come home. They have been awarded a Government contract for supplying seven of the frontier posts, including Forts Lincoln, Buford, Totten and Shaw, with beef, and the U. S. A.'s heretofore are picking their teeth in anticipation of tender steaks and juicy roasts. They'll get 'em too. The contractors hope to lose nothing by the job.—[Pioneer-Press and Tribune.]

Pueblo is building a \$50,000 school house. Colorado beats the world on public school buildings and churches, in proportion to the age and population of her towns and cities. Denver has one that cost \$75,000, and four built at an outlay of from fourteen to twenty thousand each. Central has one costing \$30,000, besides a private academy nearly as expensive. The Black Hawk public school edifice cost \$10,000, that of Golden \$15,000, Georgetown \$17,000, Boul' or \$14,000, Greeley \$30,000; and other places can boast of proportionate liberality in this direction.—Rocky Mountain Herald.

Methodist Conference. BALTIMORE, Md., May 19. In the Methodist Episcopal Conference to-day, Fiske, from the committee to which was referred the communication from the M. E. Church, South, presented a resolution that in order to remove all obstacles to formal fratricide between the two churches, the Board of Bishops be directed to appoint a committee of three ministers and two laymen to meet a similar committee authorized by the M. E. Church, South, and adjust all difficulties. The resolution was adopted. J. M. Reid was elected corresponding Secretary.

The Coming Report. WASHINGTON, May 18. The sub-committee on the Emma mine have made a draught of the report. The opinion given will not fall to carry conviction to the hearts of every reader in contemplating the severest manner the conduct of Schenck for engaging in speculative enterprise, resulting in defrauding the people of the country with whom we are on the most friendly terms. The State Department has been asked if Schenck is still minister, drawing pay. If so, the committee will demand his immediate removal, and if this is not made acceptance of his resignation will be regarded as had. As in the case of Belknap, Schenck's counsel are urging the committee to make a favorable report.

Troops on the March. CHEYENNE, May 18. The last two companies of the Second Cavalry for Crook's expedition left for Fort Russell this morning. All will cross the river at Fort Laramie, marching up the north side to Fort Pierre, to be joined by the troops which leave the railroad at Medicine Bow, the whole force reaching Fort Pierre about Wednesday morning, when Col. Royal of the Third Cavalry will take command under Crook of the entire force. At the first halting place last night, five dead horses occurred, the men taking their horses.

McAlister's Return and J. D. May. McAlister returned from the Black Hills to-day, and reported meeting Raymond's outfit on Indian creek, then engaged in his fight with the Indians. The Indians succeeded in capturing thirty-five head of stock, when they were driven off.

THE FORT GARRY PRISONERS.

We have several times alluded to the arrest and imprisonment of three citizens of this Territory in a military prison in British America. They will be tried on the 29th of June. They are without proper defense, and an appeal is made to the people of Montana for assistance, that they may be enabled to have a fair trial.

We have received the following circular, and trust some of our citizens will take the matter in hand, and raise a subscription to enable these brave pioneers, who are to be tried by a foreign power for their lives for defending themselves and their property against the merciless savages of British America, who are pampered by the Hudson Bay Company and made to believe that American citizens are hostile to all Indians, to free themselves from the clutches of British law, which knows no justice that does not favor the Province or her citizens.

AN APPEAL IN BEHALF OF THE FORT GARRY PRISONERS.

Sir: I have been called upon by Geo. W. Bell, James Hughes and Philander Vogel, citizens of Montana, now prisoners at Fort Garry, Province of Manitoba, B. A., to appeal to you, and through you to their fellow citizens of this Territory for assistance. They are to be tried by a foreign power, in a foreign country, on or about the 29th of June, 1876, and require some assistance to procure counsel, and pay expenses of a few witnesses that will be sent to Fort Garry from Benton.

I am sure that it is not necessary to enter into the details of the case, it must be fresh in the minds of the people of this Territory. Their arrest and imprisonment is merely the supplementary act of the extradition drama at Helena, last summer, in which the undersigned, with four others, H. H. Hardwick, Harper and Devereaux, figured as criminals. If guilt were attached to the Cyprus Hills fight, then indeed were we the guilty party. The decision of Commissioner Callen denied the existence of criminality on our part, in connection with the fight with the Indians in 1878. We were the acknowledged leaders, and the evidence that had been produced was not sufficient to indict us in any Court in this country, yet Bell, Hughes and Vogel were indicted at Fort Garry on less evidence than the Canadian authorities produced at Helena. It was declared then that all the evidence that could bear on the case was produced, so that it is easy to imagine in what condition these unfortunate men will be placed if allowed to go to trial without counsel or witnesses.

Some of these witnesses are under indictment in Canada for the same offense, to-wit: that upon which they were discharged at Helena, and cannot go to the place of trial. A few witnesses were sent and will be, with the assistance of the people of Montana. Every endeavor is being made to have a commission appointed at Helena to take the depositions of those who cannot cross the line.

Never has a case occurred that deserves the consideration of the citizens of Montana more than this. Three of their fellow-citizens to be tried by a foreign Judge and jury for defending their lives as property against Indians! And to be tried upon the evidence of prejudiced informers, evidence of such character that it would not be received as proof of crimes before a honest Judge in this Territory. These men are penniless, and I beseech of you to open a subscription list at your place, and you will place the Fort Garry (American) prisoners under obligations, through

Yours, Respectfully, JOHN H. EVANS. Subscriptions may be sent to J. H. Evans, Fort Benton, or U. S. Consul at Wanaopag.

INDIAN MASSACRES.

The Greeley (Colorado) Sun mentions the return of George Barnes and W. Hotchkiss, two distinguished Black Hillers. "In the same company that came out with Mr. Barnes was a Mr. Le Roy, of Laramie, who is a correspondent of an Omaha paper. This gentleman has been traveling over the country and collecting information. He says that at least 188 people have been killed and wounded by Indians on the routes leading to the Black Hills. Sixty men are killed and missing on the road between Laramie and Custer. One party of thirty men and several women and children, who started on the Sidney trail, were all massacred. Another party of six men with several women, conveying a train of flour, were killed north of Custer, on the Fort Pierre route. In several instances between Cheyenne and Custer the entire clothing of men was found by the roadside, while the bodies were discovered several miles away and horribly mutilated. Much of this bloody work was done by young Indians, but there are numerous white outlaws who are improving the opportunity to kill and plunder. These facts are suppressed at Cheyenne and other outlying points, but they are well substantiated nevertheless.

THE PENNSYLVANIA SALE.

The Tribune's Washington special assuming that Don Cameron's nomination was the selling price of Pennsylvania's vote for Conkling, inquires: Can the old gentleman deliver the goods? Many Pennsylvania politicians say he can't. Don is generally regarded as a gentleman of remarkable executive ability, but otherwise has little to recommend him for the place. Others claim that his mismanagement of the Northern Central Railroad elicited a vote of censure from the board of directors.

Sound Advice.

[Burlington Hawk-Eye.] A correspondent, in a long letter reviewing the political situation, writes us: "What can you say of a man who was once a candidate for the office of President of these United States, who dare not set foot in France, lest he be arrested as a sharper and a swindler?" We can truthfully and fairly say that if we were him, we wouldn't set foot in France, so long as that state of feeling continued.

Wanderer.

WASHINGTON, May 23. It was rumored yesterday that the President received a cable dispatch from London, announcing the death in that city, Sunday night of the infant child of his daughter, Mrs. Serrano.

POLITICAL.

Minnesota Convention. ST. PAUL, May 24.

The Minnesota Republican convention was fully attended. Lieutenant-Governor Wakefield was chosen president. The following delegates to Cincinnati were elected: District delegates—Lieutenant-Governor Wakefield, W. H. Yale, W. G. Ward, John Tames, Albert Knight, L. Bogen, R. L. Langdon, D. M. Sabie, N. P. Clarke.

The Presidential electors nominated were, ex-Governor Davis, ex-Governor Miller, Gen. Edgerton, C. K. Finseth, L. Bogen. Blaine is the choice of the convention as Candidate for President.

Missouri Republican Convention.

ST. LOUIS, May 24. The Republican State convention for the election of delegates to the Cincinnati convention, met at Jefferson City at noon, and organized temporarily by the election of Milo Blair, of Booneville, Chairman; Mr. Turner, Secretary.

The following delegates at large were elected: Ben. T. Loan, R. T. Vanhorn, G. A. Finkelnburg, Jas. T. Smith, (latter colored alternates) S. H. Boyd, F. A. Johns, John B. Henderson and J. H. Stone.

The delegation is said to stand about as follows: For Blaine, 14; Morton, 12; Bristow, 8; Cooking, 1.

Kansas Convention.

TOPEKA, May 24. The Republican State convention for the election of delegates to the National Convention, met at 2 p. m. The convention elected P. B. Plumb, permanent president, and the following delegates at large: T. C. Sears, A. M. Martindale, A. P. Horton, and T. S. Thatcher.

A wrangle from 10 to 12 o'clock occurred over the resolution declaring Blaine the first choice of the convention, and it finally passed. The convention then adjourned. All the delegates will vote for Senator Ingalls for Vice President.

Nebraska Convention.

FREMONT, May 24. The State Convention reassembled at 8:30 this morning. The following were elected delegates to the Cincinnati convention: R. G. Brown, N. R. Pinney, L. W. Osborn, H. S. Koley, C. F. Bayha, A. Nance. They were instructed for Blaine.

New Hampshire Republican Convention.

CONCORD, N. H., May 24. The Republican State convention met here to-day. The resolutions leave the delegates uninstruced and untrammelled, only requiring them to use their best efforts to secure the nomination of candidates whose names will inspire confidence and enthusiasm, and whose election in November will be an unfailing assurance to the country of a pure and efficient administration. Iris Colby, Nathan C. White, C. H. Burns and Daniel Hill were elected delegates.

The Dakota Convention.

YANKTON, D. T., May 24. At the Territorial convention to-day, to elect delegates to Cincinnati, Alexander was elected president and I. D. Spooner, Secretary. Hon. A. Hughes and A. McHenry were chosen delegates, and George H. Hand and F. Lowery, alternates. No instructions.

California Democracy.

SAN FRANCISCO, May 24. The Democratic State convention of elected a permanent organization to-night, but declined not to choose presidential electors till after the St. Louis convention.

Michigan Democratic Convention.

LANSING, May 24. The Democratic State convention met here to-day and organized permanently, by electing Wm. L. Webber president. The delegation chosen were, Wm. L. Webber, Peter White, J. Mills and Henry Chamberlain, and also eighteen district delegates. The delegation is understood to stand sixteen for Tilden and six for Hendricks.

The Coming Man.

NEW YORK, May 24. The Times' special correspondent announces that the Republican State convention of Illinois, will to-day elect forty-two delegates to the national convention, pledged to support Blaine. The unexpected unanimity of this action makes a very material addition to the strength of the gentleman from Maine. We find that eighteen States and three Territories give Blaine a certain strength on the first or second ballot, of 245 votes. There really seems to be nothing very extravagant in the claims made by Blaine's friends that he will start with a strength of nearly 900 votes. Those who believe that Blaine hardly fulfills the requisites of an ideal Presidential candidate, had better frankly recognize his undoubted strength.

INDIAN MASSACRES.

An Entire Family Murdered by the Savages.

[Special Correspondence Independent.] FORT LARAMIE, May 24th, 1876. The news has just reached here of a terrible massacre on Cottonwood creek, in the Black Hills. An entire family, consisting of a man, his wife and five children, were murdered by Sioux on the 19th inst. They were on their way from Cheyenne to Rapid City. The man's name was Pullum, and he was originally from Nebraska City.

The entire country is overrun with Indians, and the troops pay no attention to them. There is a battalion of cavalry at this post, and although the Indians are killing and murdering almost in sight of the fort they have never been on a scout. The fact is, both officers and men are afraid to go out. The road from this place to Custer City is utterly impassable. It is believed here that Crook's expedition will prove a failure. He may do very well to fight Apache, but he knows nothing about the Sioux. He was to have left Fort Kearney by the 10th, but has not gone yet. It is just the least bit possible that he will find some one to go at all. If there is any fighting to be done in the Powder river country, Gibbes and Crook will have to do it.

HUNTER'S EXPEDITION.

A BAD OUTLOOK FOR THE GOLD SEEKERS.

FORT RENO, WYOMING, May 24, 1876. EDITOR INDEPENDENT: We arrived here yesterday, and will leave in a few minutes. I send this by way of Fort Fetterman by one of our party who is going to that place. We have seen no Indians as yet. Some are already regretting having left Montana.

We expect to strike the headwaters of North Cheyenne within three days. We have found scarcely a color of gold since we left the Big Horn. We failed to raise a color on Goose creek. In fact no experienced miner would look for gold on any of these streams east of the Big Horn river below the mountains, and it is impossible to get into the mountains before the latter part of the summer on account of the snow.

Nothing happening, we hope to arrive in Whitecloud in ten days. After leaving this road we shall have to select a new one for at least one hundred miles. Will write you again from the mines. Yours, etc., W. C. LOGAN.

OUR WASHINGTON LETTER.

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENCE OF COURIER. WASHINGTON, D. C., May 18, 1876.

A gloomy day that makes one feel more like committing murder than anything else is upon us. I should suppose that today the babblers would do something desperate. They will probably order another investigation in one end of the lower and dissent to an appropriation bill in the other. Such unusual events might startle the community and electrify the nation. I suggested to an M. C. this morning that he introduce a resolution that the House reading thus: "Resolved, that a select committee of three be appointed by the Chair whose duty it shall be to ascertain if any official (living or dead) of the first century of the Republic has been investigated or against whom charges have not been preferred, and should said committee find such a one that a monument be erected to him; Provided, however, that said monument shall be finished during the next century." Such a resolution would be a good and popular one, and the expense of erecting a monument would not be insured, as the official could not be found, unless he was the fortunate holder of twelve dollar post office at some county cross roads more. The M. C. to whom I was talking was a Democrat and Chairman of one of the sub-committees in charge of an investigation. He had a weird look upon his face and indulged in a profanity about investigations, to such an extent that my moral nature was shocked and I had to reprove him. He had an immense disgust on him and I think the feeling is shared by the community at large.

Fitzhugh has not resigned. His article is exceedingly thick, and he proposes "to stick" tighter than a postage stamp. He may be removed and possibly his office abolished, though I do not think it will. There are several patriots waiting anxiously to step into his shoes. The one most prominently spoken of is Col. F. A. Tyler, formerly editor of the Memphis Tennessee, Appeal. Should the House select him, it will have the consolation of having a gentleman for Door Keeper, one who has sense and will grace the position. If he writes any letters they will be sensible ones and all the words will be properly spelt.

The Senate will probably decide the question of jurisdiction in the Belknap case to-day. Yesterday they were in session with closed doors discussing the matter, and as no one is allowed more than fifteen minutes to speak, they will probably get through to-day. No one can even conjecture how the case will be decided, though a man could probably guess at two trials, and I have no doubt the correspondents of the great dailies have made their guesses and sent them off by telegraph last night.

Clepp, the Congressional Printer, will be impeached if the Judiciary committee decides that he holds an office that is impeachable. There is no doubt that he is either a rascal or a fool, with the chances in favor of the former, from the condition of his accounts.

Dr. Nichols, of the Insane Asylum, has been most fortunate in securing the testimony of a large number of superintendents of other asylums who testify to his ability and integrity, and yesterday Secretary Bristow positively denied the testimony of the last witness against him, a woman named Mary Jane Van Kusen. The committee has not reported on his case yet.

By the way, I want to speak of a rail road. I desire to advertise it in your paper. It is the Philadelphia, Wilmington and Baltimore road, and extends from Baltimore to Philadelphia. A man named "Hincley" is president, and he controls the only direct line to Philadelphia or New York from Baltimore, he, as a matter of course, makes a hog of himself. When I went over the road on the 9th, Dom Pedro of Brazil had a special car in the train. When we arrived in a few miles of that city, eight car loads of passengers were left standing on the track, for half an hour, while the engine took in that special car. We were already an hour behind time because of the penalty which made one engine draw about fifteen car loads of passengers most of the way. That road needs advertising and I suggest to every traveler to give it a wide berth whenever possible.

The Cabinet meeting on Tuesday had the troubles in Louisiana under consideration, and General Augur was directed to give troops to the Governor of Louisiana, if in his opinion they were needed to preserve peace. A good law for that State and Mississippi would be to remove all the fire arms and permit none imported. Then if the belligerent citizens wanted to fight, the result would be black eyes and bloody noses instead of "cold cutpans." A dead negro or white man either is of very little use, while the noise would soon stop bleeding, and the eyes in time regain the normal color.

The light for the punishment varies stronger and stronger. It would almost seem that both parties are so anxious on the subject of New York, that the medals will both be chosen from that State. The New Yorkers feel their advantage, and press their "favorites" into Tilden and Conkling who now seem to be dead.

Centennial Notes.

Only one person fainted at the opening, and that was a man. The police and employers make about 10,000 constantly about the buildings. Longfellow is said to have been unable to obtain a seat on the platform. The restaurants proved wholly inadequate to meet the demands upon them. No man can get an idea of the exposition and its surrounding life in less than a whole week of active, methodical labor.

The Exhibition falls only in the immensity of its success. That is, it surpasses necessity. It is like marry the fat woman, she was all that we had expected, and more too.

A train of cars of the narrow gauge railroad which passes over the space for the opening ceremonies was seized by the ladies, who were ever and anon driven out and their places taken by a new crowd of the same sex.

A Tunk woman, the wife of a Tunk merchant, drew large crowds, and her costume, perhaps, still more than herself. The golden cuffs on her ankles, those remnants of old chains of slavery, were what the American ladies seemed to admire more than anything else.

There were said to be over 1,000,000 strangers in Philadelphia, on Monday night and the hotels were literally packed. Even the great Globe Hotel, with its 1,500 rooms, was full. The United States Hotel coated guests in all the corridors, and the West End Hotel stowed away the Colonel James Putnam Guards in its parlors.

The first of "privileged ones to arrive were the 750 fair creatures of the Women's Committee, each of whom was adorned with a beautiful bright star of silver, pendant from a clasp containing the initials of their organization. It was not meant to be significant of the restoration of good will between the North and South, perhaps, but was suggestive, nevertheless, that a man named Dixey never the procession which was led by the President Grant.

The marines and seamen of the navy yards very effectually, and the country troops, with their horse-tail helmets and heavy war horses, rode into the city from distant villages, travelling before daylight.

Pacific Coast Items.

CALIFORNIA. The cars on the Southern Pacific railroad will be running from San Francisco to Los Angeles by the fourth of July next.

R. P. Hosmer, Secretary of the Amazon and Glasgow mines, is missing. The President of the companies admits that he has left his accounts in a bad shape, and it is rumored he is a defaulter to the amount of several thousand dollars.

G. P. Henderson, formerly of Napa, committed suicide in Mendocino county, last week, by taking poison. Cause, domestic trouble. It is reported in San Diego, that a proclamation in favor of Dix is likely to be made at San Rafael, Lower California, in a few days.

The Salinas Index reports the discovery of valuable quick-silver mines on the boundary line between Monterey and Fresno counties. A new industry is likely to be developed in Plumas, California, in the shape of a mine of mica, discovered during the last winter, on one of the branches of Indian creek, above Genesee Valley.

A certificate of the capital stock of the Hale and Norcross Mining Company was filed Monday. The original capital was \$3,200,000, divided into 16,000 shares of \$200 each. The new capital is \$11,200,000 divided into 112,000 shares of \$100 each.

NEVADA.

Thirty seven locations have been made in Pyramid Lake Mining District. The Atlas furnace at Bureka turned out on the 17th of May 400 bars of bullion. The Sentinel says that it is the largest run ever made by a single furnace in that district.

There were shipped by the Virginia & Truckee Railroad during the past twenty-four hours, to the different mills on the Carson river, eighty four car loads of ore.

The citizens of Elko are about to organize a fire department. A first-class fire engine is to be purchased, and other precautions used to protect their own town from fire.

The Sutrö Independent says that the California Mill Company will soon begin the erection of a \$350,000 tailings mill on the site of the Gould & Curry mill. The old walls of the latter, which are still standing in a good state of preservation, will be used for the new structure. A pious father ordered a Virginia City saloon with a horsewhip one night last week, and found his son playing euchre. He named the young man's jacket and set him home, and then sat down and finished the game himself.

Blaine Jubilant.

NEW YORK, May 24. The Express Washington special says Blaine is jubilant over the Western news, and his friends declare that Nebraska and Minnesota will follow in the lead of Illinois for him. Every Republican State west of Indiana, indeed, is now claimed for Blaine. Grant sticks to Conkling, but only the Morton combination can save him.

Pioneers to Assemble.

NEW YORK, May 23. The pioneers of the territorial days of California, will assemble at Centennial Hall, Philadelphia, Sept. 9. The day being the 25th anniversary of the admission of that State into the Union.

Gold Dust.

Yesterday nearly seven thousand dollars in gold dust was purchased at the banks. Over one half of it—or \$4,000—was the result of last week's clean-up at Snow Shov. The mining is that gold is being procured under more favorable circumstances than for several seasons past, and the returns are unusually remunerative.—Independent.

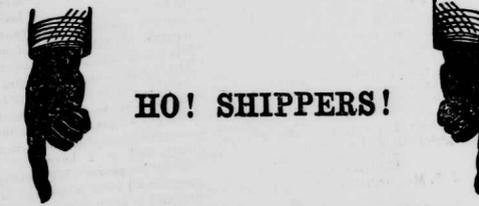
On the Head the Senate confirmed the nomination of Edwards Pierpont to be Minister to War, Secretary, and Secretary to be Attorney General.



THE "SILVER TONGUE" ORGAN. A TEST OF THIRTY YEARS.

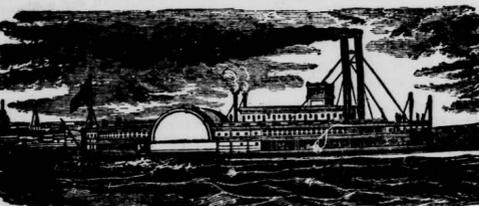
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