

THE AVANT COURIER.

THURSDAY, MAY 24, 1877.

The Pioneer Paper of Eastern Montana.

J. V. BOGERT, Associate Editor.

The News.

Greece has voted a war tax of \$12,000,000. Packard will probably receive a foreign mission. A colored colony of over 2000 is about settling in Kansas. Stokes, the murderer of Fisk, is suing for a divorce. Gen. Sheridan was lately made the father of twins. The Treasury has called in the last of the 1865 5.30 bonds. Fort Ripley will be abandoned and the troops withdrawn. Irregularities have been discovered in the San Francisco Mint. Gen. Grant has been made a member of the Grand Army of the Republic. Tweed's confession comes too late, is not inclusive, and he will not be released. Illinois declares silver coin a legal tender for all its public and private debts. Col. John Forsyth, the famous editor of the Mobile Register, died on the 13th. Fifteen hundred French pilgrims were received by the Pope on the 7th inst. Twenty five per cent. of Texas stock died from exposure and want of feed last winter. Rumored, that James Russell Lowell will succeed E. F. B. as Minister to Austria. Geo. H. Butler's appointment caused such a breeze that he was instantly removed. The public debt was decreased \$455,204,642 from March 1st, 1869, to April 30th, 1877. It is feared the Russian squadron in the Pacific will seize British Columbia should England join Turkey. Reports, that John A. Logan has accepted a position in the Russian army. Another "war-horse" gone. Major Reno's sentence has been remitted to suspension from rank and pay for two years. His record saved him. Jas. K. Miller and Jas. McPherson, old Montanians, but now merchants at Deadwood, recently shipped to that point 200 tons of goods—says the Independent. A miners' riot at Oro City, Colorado, resulted in seizure of three of the mine owners, and forcible payment by them of over \$400, to provide for return East of a body of workmen. On the 13th, Gen. Valdes with a force of 600 pronounced for Lerdo. He had possession of the whole Rio Grande district, except Piedras Negras, which he was preparing to attack. Notwithstanding Russia's declaration that Turkish vessels should be allowed eight days in which to leave Russian waters, ten vessels were seized the day after issue of the proclamation. England has protested. New Hampshire, New York, Wisconsin and Michigan have been suffering from forest fires. The town of Clinton Mills, N. Y., is destroyed, and Stockport is in flames on the 15th. On the 15th, the entire country from Marquette, Wis., to Ispening, Mich., (129 miles) was on fire. Latest foreign advices predict a great battle near Batoum. Austria will occupy Serbia, and protests against formation of a Polish legion. Russian occupation of the Red Sea causes great excitement. The American officers in the service of the Khedive refuse to bear arms against Russia. A Little Rock, Arkansas, dispatch of the 31st says: Judge Martin, in the circuit court to day, held that the railroad aid bond act of the Legislature of 1869, under which six million dollars' worth of bonds were issued, was unconstitutional, and the bonds are void. Appeal was taken to the Supreme Court. The Bismarck Tribune says: The officers of the Northern Pacific who were in the city last week looked over the valley of Heart river some distance, with a view to extension, and returned well satisfied with the route as located. Whether the road will be extended this season remains to be determined, but the chances are very favorable. Camp Douglas, Utah, will be garrisoned by 5 companies of Infantry and 2 of Cavalry—Fort Hall's garrison will be retained, Camp Cameron garrisoned by 2 full Infantry companies, and 1 company be stationed at Logan and St. George. Threatened Mormon troubles cause the same. EASTERN MONTANA. The policy of the COURIER in the matter of opening our lower country has been so severely criticised, and the so called suicidal tendency of Bozeman and the Gallatin to see salvation via that policy have been so ridiculed, that croakers are referred to the following from the Husbandman: "The final solution of the Indian question is now the most important event that can transpire for the welfare of Montana. The time has at length come when this becomes an absolute necessity. The insecurity of property on our extreme eastern frontier has long retarded its rapid development, but by degrees civilization has planted itself in this region until at last it asserts the positive demand for protection. The opening of the route between this and the Black Hills would be of incalculable benefit to our Territory. This, however, is not of so much importance to our stock growers as the opening of a direct route to Bismarck. The importance of this route is clear to every stock owner, and it will be at once opened as soon as the necessary protection to life and property is afforded. Some of the most extensive stock raisers in Montana county have had an eye to this route for several years, and we are fully warranted in saying that if it becomes safe for small parties to traverse the country during the summer, a party of these stock men will survey or locate a route. The distance from Helena to Bismarck, via the Northern Pacific survey, is about 610 miles; a wagon road to drive stock over would, of course, be something shorter. From Eastern Montana the distance would not vary, except that to Corinne, and the country is far superior

for grass; there would be no herds along the road to either drovers, and it is in many respects superior to the present route. Besides, when the railroad was reached, the distance to market would be at least 600 miles less. The driving of beef cattle has become a permanent industry, and the cheapest and most practical route possible must be found. Our sheep industry is also assuming such mammoth proportions that a greater market for mutton is needed. If this route was open, sheep could be driven to Bismarck and shipped East at a good profit. We believe that in such an event the production of mutton, taking the wool into consideration, would be more profitable than that of beef. The cost of driving sheep through this region would be but little more than that of herding on the range, and special rates could, no doubt, be had from the N. P. to encourage and strengthen the trade, as it would be competition with the U. P. The foregoing are some of the considerations actuating us in our course in the premises; and we have urged such procedure regarding utilization of the Yellowstone, that a river highway might possibly be added to our means of entrance and exit. We cannot see any reason why other parts of the Territory should oppose the experiment—an experiment which, if successful, must redound to the benefit of its every section.

ARMY REDUCTION.

On the 19th inst., says a Washington dispatch, an order for the reduction of the army was agreed upon. All soldiers and non-commissioned officers whose time expires before November are to be mustered out prior to June 30, unless they give notice of their intention to re-enlist. Two other classes are also to be discharged, namely: minors and those who from any cause, such as habitual drunkenness, are not fitted to make good soldiers. Officers on recruiting service will have the choice of returning to their regiments or being put on the list of those waiting orders. The property of recruiting stations is to be sold, unless some one can be found who will take it on storage and trust the Government for pay. The order fixes the strength of Infantry regiments at 370 men and non-commissioned officers; Artillery regiments at 380—the Cavalry regiments to remain unchanged at 500. This will reduce the nominal strength of the army to about 19,000 men. In this connection, we may allude to a statement of the Chicago Tribune, which is thus commented upon by the Yankton Press: "In the discussion of the question of the calling of the special session of Congress, in the Cabinet, the propriety of dismissing and discharging the army in a body was seriously discussed and urged by the President and at least two members of the Cabinet. The argument used was that the real theory of our Government was based upon a militia, to be called from the body of the people whenever needed for active service, and that as the country was now at peace within itself as well as with other nations, and was likely to remain so for a long time to come, the expense of keeping an army in active service was quite unnecessary. It was said, moreover, that the frontier States would be quite willing and able to protect their own frontiers, and that the failure by Congress to make an appropriation for the army at its late session might be taken as an indication that the country did not really want the army supported at this time. "The best way to avoid war with other nations, as well as within her own borders, is by being prepared, in some degree at least, to assert the power of the Government promptly and effectively. It is well known that the peace policy towards the Indians depends entirely upon the backing up by the military power of the demands of the Interior Department, and we can conceive of no more mischievous scheme in this connection than an immediate withdrawal of its force at the back of the Indian Department, thereby placing the latter in an entirely powerless condition, and plunging our whole frontier into a border war, that might, it is true, result in the ultimate extermination of the red man, but only after a bloody strife that would be too horrible to contemplate. Orders lately issued in the premises may be condensed as follows: The standard fixed for Infantry regiments is 37 men to a company and 3 for each regimental non-commissioned staff—total, 375 men to a regiment. Cavalry regiments will not be affected. Discharges will be made upon the recommendation of company commanders, to date June 15th. These recommendations will include men whose terms must expire by Nov. 1st, unless they agree to re-enlist if needed—minors, improper enlistments, those forfeiting pay under G. O. No. 51 of 1871, and those desiring discharges. On the 4th inst. the Secretary of War received from Draxel, Maynard & Co., of New York, a proposition to furnish sufficient money at 5 or 6 per cent. interest per annum, to pay the army from the 1st of July until the army appropriation bill passed, but the Secretary declined the offer, on the ground that he cannot enter into such a contract, without a violation of law. He, however, favors the plan to so advance pay to officers of the army, but desires it understood that the War Department can have nothing to do with the transaction, which must be purely a private matter between the officers and the firm. He expresses a willingness to do all in his power to aid such an arrangement, provided he can do so without violating the law, and has referred the question to the Attorney General as to what extent he can take part in the transaction.

POTTS AND MILLS.

The following is received as we go to press: WASHINGTON, D. C., May 19. To D. H. WESTON: I am fully vindicated. Capt. Mills has been appointed and commissioned as Secretary of the Territory. I will leave for home to-night. B. F. POTTS.

A NEW PARTY.

The following are the principal planks of the new party proposed by the New York Herald, the Courier-Journal and other Northern, Southern and Eastern journals: First—A national currency founded on a bi-metal standard, and sufficient for the wants of a healthy trade. Second—A system of internal improvements such as private capital is powerless to construct, but which is essential to the development of the country's resources. Third—A tariff sufficient to keep employed such manufacturing establishments already in operation, and put in operation such new industries as will tend to develop the natural wealth of the country, and create a balance of trade in our favor.

HOSTILE SURRENDERS.

The Cheyenne Leader of the 9th has a communication from a military correspondent at Red Cloud, from whose letters we condense as follows: "It is all very well for military critics in the East to say that the hostiles are being coaxed in. But please permit us—who have participated in the battles, and who know the squalor and wretchedness, and utter submission of the vanquished—to say that it has been the bitterest dose of coaxing ever administered under our observation. Less than a year ago the names, Roman Nose, Dall Knife, Little Wolf, Standing Elk, and those of other prominent hostile chieftains, were only mentioned with dread by the average citizen. To-day we see them disarmed, dismounted, helpless, and, so far, not even expressing the shadow of a demand. "I have spent considerable time to good advantage in examining the array of firearms thus far surrendered, and which are now stored in an ordnance-room at Camp Robinson. Almost every pattern of a rifle and carbine extant is represented, while Colt's improved army revolver is about the only small-arm turned in. The young and prominent warriors usually produced the best Sharp's sporting rifles or carbines, or else the regular army rifle or carbine; and the chiefs were, in numerous cases, armed with fine Winchester repeating rifles. Then the old men and boys turned in muzzle-loaders of every pattern, from the small-bore Kentucky squirrel-rifle to a terrible weapon approaching the blunderbuss style. Although not compelled to surrender their bows and arrows, many braves gave those up voluntarily. "I found guns re-stocked with native wood; re-ighted with bits of bone and steel; original fastenings replaced with rawhide, sinew or wire; and all accomplished in a manner as effective as it was original. It is plain that an Indian's very existence depends upon his possessing a weapon of some kind, for the Cheyennes who have surrendered here had hardly turned in their arms than they commenced manufacturing their old-time companion, the war-club. But this only illustrates one of their strong traits. The ruins of all their years' accumulations have scarcely fallen before they commence gathering together and building anew."

GOV. POTTS VS. CUSTER COUNTY.

We are in receipt of a letter from a respected Helena friend, who objects to what he evidently considers the insinuation of our last week's article under above heading. We speak of the charge (we made none) that the Governor had "hesitated" to organize Custer county; but we attached an interjection mark to the objectionable word. Our files contain the history of the Governor's action, and the COURIER has not, itself, questioned his motives or desires. Regarding his treatment of Messrs. Pease and McCormick, we merely recited the charges, and we so stated, and did not make unfavorable comments. On the contrary, we concluded with the remark, "We think a satisfactory explanation may result." Our friend assures us that the Governor exerted himself from outset to end to secure the organization (which we have always believed)—that, the commissions were issued to the nominees of the Miles City convention—that, the Governor did not send them to Pease or McCormick, as he supposed the latter had returned to Tongue River and did not know of the presence here of the former—that, he often spoke in high terms of both during the interim—that, he sent the commissions to Mr. Vivion because of previous intention and Mr. Vivion's adaptability, being a lawyer. The letter concludes as follows: "It seems to be the Governor's fate to be condemned and his motives distorted. He was enthusiastic in the matter, and these charges will pain him to an extreme." We hoped this matter would result in this way, and we are glad to be able to set it right—regretting refusal of our correspondent to permit use of his name.

THE EXPEDITION.

The Bismarck Tribune of the 4th inst. has the following: The Yellowstone Expedition of 1877 is now in the field. Eleven companies of the 7th Cavalry, under command of Gen. Sturgis, passed through Bismarck yesterday, en route for Tongue River. The companies are well mounted and though the regiment lost a noble lot of officers last summer, it is still well officered. Gen. Sturgis was in command. Lieut. Col. Otis and the gallant Benton will also be in the field. As the regiment passed through the city it was loudly cheered, but to the companies commanded by Benton, Bell and McDougall most attention was paid. Four companies of the 1st Infantry and six of the 11th Infantry arrived from Standing Rock and Fort Sully on the steamer, Fair West, and leave to-day on the Fauchon for Tongue River. These reinforcements will join General Miles, and will operate under his command in the Little Horn country during the summer, returning this fall probably to winter. The entire 7th Cavalry, excepting one company stationed at Totten and a few dismounted men at Ft. Lincoln and Ft. Rice, it will be seen, are in the field, and the Infantry force accompanying them from this point is equivalent to a full regiment. Whether there will be any skirmishing with the Indians this summer remains to be seen, but an impression, growing out of the surrender of Crazy Horse, prevails that there will be none.

CAMPAIGN NOTES.

The following were announced on orders as the staff of the Cavalry column: 1st Lt. Geo. D. Wallace, Adjutant; 1st Lt. Chas. A. Varnum, Quartermaster; Asst. Surgeon V. Harvard, Med. Dept.; Chief Medical Officer; Asst. Surgeon E. F. Greener, Med. Dept.; 1st Lt. F. M. Gibson, A. O. S.; 1st Lt. L. R. Hare, Topographical Engineer. Ten Indian scouts will accompany the regiment, and will be in charge of the adjutant of the column. The Bismarck Tribune of the 9th says, it does not follow that the war is over, however, because three hundred warriors and six hundred women and children have surrendered. There are no less than twenty-five thousand hostiles left out.

SPIRIT OF TERRITORIAL PRESS.

Missoulian: The bullion-tax suit was decided adversely to the mill men. This is no doubt the law; but it must be said to the everlasting disgrace of the last Legislature that it passed no law to meet just such cases. It is just as proper to tax the gross amount of goods sold annually by a merchant, although he may sell ten times as many goods as he has capital employed. Independent: There is no longer any doubt that the plan adopted by the Republicans of giving the elective franchise to the negroes before they were capable of appreciating its benefits has been a complete failure. At the close of the war there was no doubt a sincere conviction that it was conferring a blessing upon the negro, and also upon the Republican party. The latter end was gained, but not the former. It was claimed that the rebels could not be trusted and power was given to the negroes and their carpet-bag allies. The result was just what any sensible person would have expected, an almost total ruin of the South, and a degradation of the white people, but not an elevation of the blacks.

THE TERRITORY.

Madison.—A. B. Knight will survey Pony Township. A promising lode has been discovered in Mineral Hill District. Plenty of pilgrims on the streets, destined for the mines and Gallatin country. Husbandman.—Pony will soon have 3 more mills; one a 30 stamp. Lewis & Clarke. Independent.—No grain will be shipped up the Missouri this season. Grasshoppers are hatching in great numbers in the Bitter Root and destroying the rising grain. \$10,000 in gold and silver were melted at the assay office on the 15th and 16th. Custer. Missoulian.—The Governor has appointed commissioners to organize Custer county, which was formerly Big Horn county. It will be the proper thing after this at the close of a Territorial election to tell the other fellow to wait until we hear from Custer county. Meagher. Husbandman.—A herd of 3000 sheep is now on the road from California. An interest in Eldorado Bar lately sold for \$1500. A 29 interest in the Boulder Ditch lately sold for \$900. Jefferson. Independent.—Miners are so scarce that half bent enough are obtainable. Good wages assured. Deer Lodge. Miner.—Butte will soon have a public library, and an \$8000 Masonic and Odd Fellows Hall. A test of the worst Mangan ore from the Twin Stevens Lode shows gold, \$200, and 40 oz. silver to the ton.

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war broke out, and have done the bulk of the fighting, considering their numbers. They have also been the heaviest losers. In fact, are so miserably poor to-day that they can scarcely boast of a decent wigwam. When Gen. McKenzie destroyed their village, in his battle of last December, the survivors, with what few ponies they had left, made their way to the Sioux camp, expecting food and shelter. But, wounded and frozen, and half starved as they were, their reception was emphatically chilly; and this accounts for the sour milk in the cocoanut. If ever opportunity offer, they will remind their red allies of that frigid reception in the north-western wilds in no uncertain way. Lieut. Clarke's detachment of Cheyenne scouts will do service of incalculable value, as much on account of the stimulus mentioned above as from any other cause. They make an excellent patrol or police force, and some have a ready exhibited the striking traits of detectives."

THE TERRITORY.

It is stated by Eastern papers that Secretary Schurz and Commissioner Smith concur in Gen. Crook's idea that the Indians must and should be compelled to work for their rations and annuities. The late conference between these gentlemen was, it seems, mainly devoted to consideration of plans having this object in view, and it is presumable some definite policy will soon be established. It was, however, decided not to attempt removal of the surrenders to new agencies until the close of the season, when it will doubtless be effected. A CAMP. says a Camp Brown dispatch of the 15th, had been discovered by the Snake scouts on the head of Budwater, about 75 miles northwest from Camp Brown, on the west side of the Big Horn range. The late conference between these gentlemen was, it seems, mainly devoted to consideration of plans having this object in view, and it is presumable some definite policy will soon be established. It was, however, decided not to attempt removal of the surrenders to new agencies until the close of the season, when it will doubtless be effected.

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PILES.

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DEALERS IN FANCY DRY GOODS, CLOTHING, BOOTS, SHOES, GROCERIES, LIQUORS, TIN-WARE, & CO. All of which will be sold at the Lowest Market Prices. All kinds of Produce Taken in Exchange. Cash Paid for all kinds of Hides and Furs. Agents for Singer and Howe Sewing Machines. Bozeman, M. T., February 8, 1877.

WALTER COOPER,

[Brick Block, Bozeman, M. T.] Wholesale and Retail

DEALER IN

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EDDIE GREENE.

Mambrino Pilot, Jr., bred by James L. Rodgers, Fayette county, Kentucky; foaled 1867, sired by Bell's Mambrino Pilot. Record: 2:37.

First dam by Browning's bay Messenger; second dam by Hunt's brown Highlander; third dam by Blackman's Whip-Chief, by Mambrino Pilot by Mambrino Pilot, by Mambrino Pilot Master, by imported Messenger.

Downie's bay Messenger, by Halpin's bay, by Bishop's Hambletonian, by imported Messenger.

GEORGE W. WAKEFIELD, Bozeman, May 1st, 1877, 22-1m

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