THE AVANT COURIER.

The Pioneer Paper of Eastern Montana.

THURSDAY, : : JUNE 14, 1877.

J. V. BOGERT. : Associate Editor.

The News.

—"Silvia Gem" won the Derby.

—Boston has cast a 52 ton gun for New York harbor.

—Motley, the American historian, died lately in London.

—The President favors restoration of the old trade dollar.

—The hog cholera has caused a loss of $20,000 in the Western States.

—Gen. Crook expresses the opinion that no more troops are needed in Utah.

—Fletcher Harper, senior of the Harper publishing house, died on the 29th ult.

—Rumored, that petrified sea-turtles have been found in Southern Colorado.

—The army's shoes will hereafter be manufactured by U. S. prison labor at Leavenworth.

—800 lives were lost by the tidal wave which destroyed Iquique and seven other Peruvian towns.

—The New York Herald's Salt Lake correspondent has suffered two attempts at assassination.

—Gen. Butler owns 71,000 acres of Colorado land. Both he and Logan intend removing to Colorado.

—The questions raised by German residents of Cuba have been arranged satisfactorily to both countries.

—St. Louis is making extensive arrangements to ship grain direct to Europe—a result of the Eads' jetties.

—England has intimated to Russia that the blockade of the Suez Canal would force her to abandon neutrality.

—Mt. Carmel, Ill., was nearly destroyed by a tornado on the 4th. Loss $500,000. Many were wounded and 22 were killed.

—Secretary McCrary's instructions to Gen. Ord imply merely a speedy suppression of Mexican border raids, no matter what the cost.

—Decoration Day was universally observed East, West and South—in many places Federals and ex-Confederates joined in decorating the graves of Northern and Southern dead.

—Gen. Grant has been accorded the honor usually paid an ex sovereign. His reception at Liverpool was an ovation, and in London he has been the recipient of unusual honors,

—Alfred C. Anderson, a leading colored man of Hamilton, O., has filed application for the position of United States Minister to Hayti. He is indorsed by most of the prominent colored men ot the county.

—Hon. Judge Morgan of New Orleans has been designated by the President for the magistracy of the new Egyptian judicial tribunal—the Khedive having requested a nomination from this country.

—Senator Morton, in his forcible letter upon the President's Southern policy, sums up the situation in this terse sentenc: "The question was, Should the President yield to the inevitable or proceed to inevitable defeat?"

Col. Sheridan is on his way to superintend the removal of the bodies of the officers who fell with Custer, with the exception of that of Lt. Crittenden, which, at his father's request, will not be molested. Custer will be interred at West Point, and the others at Leavenworth.

—Attorney General Devens will examine the laws for the purpose of ascertaining whether there is any authority for the Federal courts to interfere in the matter of the Mississippi Chisholm massacre. The Secretary of State takes part in the investigation only from the fact heretofore stated, that the British authorities complain that one of the parties massacred was a British subject.

—The following statement is furnished by the chief of the bureau of statistics. The aggregate imports and exports of merchandise for the month of April were: Total exports, $44,515,439; total imports, $42,662,696. For ten months of the current fiscal year: Exports of merchandise valued at $514,799.053; imports, $357,-564,819, showing an excess of exports over imports of over $157,000,000. In ten months there was an excess of exports of coin bullion over imports of $282,415.

—Five companies of the 5th Cavalry (companies A, B, H, I and L) now at Ft. D. A. Russell, have received orders to hold themselves in readiness to march to Cantonment Reno, on Powder River. From this point small commands will be sent out, and the whole country along the base of the Big Horn Mountains will be kept clear of Indians. As the greater body of the hostiles have surrendered, no large expedition seems to be contemplated.

—A telegram from Syria says discouragement exists in official circles in Constantinople because it is not known how a sufficient force can be collected to resist the Russian advance. The hopes that the capture of Sukum Kaleh would lead to an insurrection in Caucasus have all disappeared. The Circassians feared Russia and laid down their arms. Turkey is weak from material causes, which render it difficult to maintain long resistance. Russia, in a note to Great Battain, foreshadows a case in which she might in the very interest of a speedy conclusion of peace, be led to occupy temporarily even Constantinople, in order to oblige the Turks to acknowledge their defeat.

—A Washington special says: A prominent Republican said to-day that three causes are pushing the country on to war with Mexico. The military party, headed by Sherman, were anxious to have a war to prevent the considerable reduction of the army proposed by the Democratic party. The speculative interests involved in the land grants made by the Lerdo government and cancelled by the Diaz administration, were united with political influences in asking for war. To draw attention from the ordinary course of civil affairs, the great popularity of the war at the South was a constant temptation to the Administration, anxious to conciliate the Southern States and Southern votes.

—Gen. Jack Wharton, in an interview concerning the statement in Gen. Butler's letter to Marshal Pitkin, wherein it is charged that he had an understanding with Wayne McVeigh whereby he (Wharton) was to disburse money to the Packard Legislature and assist in breaking up that body, in consideration of which he was to be made U. S. Marshal, says the story is utterly and absolutely false, as every one—including Pitkin and the committee—in the least acquainted with my position and conduct at the time will know. He pronounces it a malicious and shallow dodge to make temporary capital against him. It is well known here that Gen. Wharton, in an eloquent address before the Commission, protested against the disintegration of the Packard Legislature.

—The Secretary of War, in a letter to General Sherman, says: The President desires that the utmost vigilance on the part of the military forces in Texas be exercised for the suppression of these raids. It is very desirable that efforts to this end, in so far, at least, as they necessarily involve operations on both sides of the border, be made with the co-operation of the Mexican authorities, and you will instruct General Ord, commanding in Texas, to invite such co-operation, on the part of the local Mexican authorities, and to inform them that while the President is anxious to avoid giving offense to Mexico, he is nevertheless convinced that the invasion of our territory by armed and organized bodies of thieves and robbers to prey upon our citizens should not be longer endured. General Ord will at once notify the Mexican authorities along the Texas border of the great desire of the President to unite with them in efforts to suppress this long-continued lawlessness. At the same time he will inform those authorities that if the Government of Mexico shall continue to neglect the duty of suppressing these outrages that duty will depend upon this government, and will be performed even if its performance should render necessary the occasional crossing of the border by our troops. You will, therefore, direct General Ord that in case these lawless incursions continue he will be at liberty to use his own discretion when in pursuit of the marauders, and when his troops are either in sight of them or upon a fresh trail to follow them across the Rio Grande, and to overtake and punish them as well as retake the stolen property taken from our citizens and found in their hands on the Mexican side of the line.

RAILROAD PROSPECTS.

The Herald reports that, John W. Young recently visited Cache Valley in the interest of the Utah Northern Railroad, which he desires to push to a point between Bear and Snake Rivers the present year. In this undertaking Mr. Young is cordially joined by Mr. Thatcher, Superintendent, and other officers and stockholders of the road. Mr. Young expects the co operation and help of the people of Logan and other communities in Cache Valley in grading and tieing the road extension contemplated to be finished and put in operation this year, Mr. Richardson pledging to furnish all needed iron and necessary rolling stock.

The Corinne Record states that, Mr. Gould says it is his intention to send out this season two surveying parties to seek a practical route for a road into Montana, one party to start surveying from Corinne and the other from Evanston. Of course, any person who has traveled the two routes knows that the one leading north from Corinne is by far the best and most practicable, and not to be mentioned in the same breath as the one leading from Evanston. But just how soon operations will be commenced on the selected road after these parties have made their reports, perhaps Gould and his partners only know. But one thing is certain, and that is that Montana is to be placed in railroad communication with the outside world at no distant day.

TIMBER LANDS.

We have from time to time alluded to coming action upon the timber question, and have now to announce reception by the local land office of the following instructions from Commissioner Williamson:

"Hereafter, as it may be found advisable, from time to time, clerks or employes will be detailed from this office to act under instructions from the Commissioner in ascertaining when, where, and by whom depredations have been committed upon the public lands, and to report to him the facts in each case. If, upon an examination of the reports so obtained, the Commissioner finds that the facts elicited in any case warrant the commencement of legal proceedings to punish the trespassers, or to collect damages for the waste already committed, or both, he will report the same to the Secretary of the Interior, with his opinion thereon, in order that such further proceedings may be had in the premises as the case may require. The clerks or employes detailed as aforesaid will not be permitted to make any compromise for depredations committed on the public lands. If any propositions are submitted to them with that object, they will be required to report the same to this office, with a full statement of the facts in the case, showing the nature and extent of said depredations, when, and by whom, committed, the amount and value of the timber when cut, and the value of the land in its present and former condition, all of which, together with the opinion of the Commissioner, will be submitted to the head of the Department for further consideration. If, in any case, the emergencies should seem to require more prompt action than is contemplated in the rules above indicated, in order to arrest the offender, or to secure the Government for the damages suffered, it will be the duty of the clerk or employe detailed to act in the matter to make direct application to the United States District Attorney for the district in which the waste was committed to institute the proper legal proceedings for that purpose. This course, however, must be taken only in cases where the evidence is clear and indisputable."

A dispatch to the New York Tribune says:

"The Commissioner says that it is well-known that along the Gulf of Mexico, in the pine region of Lake Superior and the upper Mississippi, on the Pacific coast and in the mountain regions of Colorado, Utah, Montana, Wyoming and Idaho the cutting and removal of timber from the public lands has been very great. Large mills have been supplied with timber cut from the public lands, and much lumber thus unlawfully taken has been exported to Cuba and Central America; in the mining districts a vast quantity has been used in propping mines, and has been burned into charcoal for smelting ore, and in other localities it has gone into the usual channel of the timber trade to a very large extent. The amount realized by the Government for all this loss, as hereinbefore given, is little more, if any, than the value of the timber on 5,000 acres of good pine land, and is a mere trifle compared with the value of the timber actually cut and taken. In view of the unsatisfactory results of all efforts thus far, the proposition of the Commissioner to discontinue the system, and employ special agents, was approved by Secretary Schurz. Under this new arrangement, notwithstanding the fact that very limited means were at the disposal of the department for the purpose, seizures of timber have been made in Minnesota and Louisiana within two months, the value of which aggregates more than the total amount recovered to the Government during the preceeding 20 years. The Commissioner believes that with a proper appropriation the whole of this plundering can be stopped, and many millions of dollars saved to the Government."

The Little Muddy Battle.

SITTING BULL.

The COURIER's Rosebud dispatch of last week, intimating the neighborhood of Sitting Bull, would seem to secure some endorsement from the fact that Indian runners assert his positive participation in the late battle on the Little Muddy. Sheridan is advised that he "had come down to the Rosebud, and joined Lame Deer's band, and that there were about 100 lodges in all." These runners, claiming to have been in the camp when attacked, declare "the white soldiers drove the Sioux from the village, held it against repeated charges of Sitting Bull and his warriors, and that that Chief and his people have fled toward Powder River." However, the Department of the Interior has an Ottawa dispatch of 5th inst. asserting the "probability" of Sitting Bull's continued presence at Wood Mountain.

The Bismarck Tribune of the 30th ulto. also says Sitting Bull is believed to be on Milk River, near the British line, with 180 lodges and probably 800 warriors.

Our dispatch, which came from a reliable source, has caused no little speculation in military circles here, and while it and the Indian story above given may form but an accidental coincidence, we are disposed to give both some credence. Having no reason to suspect Sitting Bull's participation in the fight, we imagined his trail (if, indeed, it was his) indicated, either his approach to surrender at Tongue River, or an attempt to encircle the command then camped upon the Rosebud. The first idea receives some support from the assertion of these runners, that "Sitting Bull wanted to hear through them how Crazy Horse had been treated, and that he stated he 'could' (one dispatch says 'woul!') go in and surrender with all his people." We hope soon to receive definite information upon all points suggested.

THE FIGHT.

The Bismarck Tribune in its account supports in all main particulars our special report—adding that "some weeks ago Gen. Miles learned through Indian sources that there was a large party of Indians on the Rosebud who refused to return to the agency, and who had jeered those who had determined to surrender, heaping upon them insults which rankled in their savage breasts until they determined to see whether the savage braggarts would kill their squaws and children and fight to the last, as they threatened to do, in case the soldiers should come after them."

"The march was a long one—circuitous trails were made in order to escape the observation of the Indians; stealthy marches through ravines and winding around prominent points, occasionally passing through bad lands, being the general rule.

THE JEROME

and Casey detachment rushed through the village and captured about five hundred ponies which were grazing below it, while Tyler's and Norwood's companies of the 2d Cavalry were operating on the north side of the creek with a view to intercepting the flight of the Indians in that direction. This battalion was supported by Capt. Wheelan's company, and in that part of the field a hot engagement ensued, in which

LIEUT. FULLER,

of the 2d Cavalay was wounded, a ball passing through the upper portion of the breast near the shoulder. A hair's breadth either way would have made his wound a mortal one." He was twice fired upon by Indians pretending to surrender, but in both cases the hostiles were instantly killed.

THE ARMY VICTIMS.

The Tribune states that Glaskowsky, company F, "was killed while guarding two pack mules and met his fate like a brave man and true soldier as he was, though his three comrades, when suddenly attacked, fled, and the Indians captured about four thousand rounds of ammunition"—one of the fleeing party (a Sergeant) being disgraced by Gen. Miles in consequence, and Springer, company H, receiving the ball intended for General Miles.

CAPT. WHEELAN AND SERGEANT DAVIS

have both been credited with the killing of Lone Deer—the COURIER's special report according the act to Capt. Wheelan, and the official report (also published by us, from notes furnished by Sergeant McBlain) crediting it to Sergeant Davis. The Tribune now gives the following version:

"Gen. Miles had given imperative orders forbidding the harming of any women and children, and caused his interpreters to shout, as they advanced, that all who surrendered would be protected. As he advanced through the village, Lame Deer, naked to the waist, made his way to him with one hand outstretched, but with the other he held his carbine. The General shook hands with him, Lt. Baird shaking hands with Iron Star, who appeared in a magnificent Indian costume, his war bonnet being composed of sixty eagle feathers, which hung from crown to heel, three pieces of yellow lace, probably relics of the Custer fight, depending from either side. Gen. Miles motioned to the chiefs to lay down their arms. They obeyed, and Gen. Miles directed Lieut. Long to dismount and secure the weapons. Lieutenant Long had barely touched the ground when Iron Star, fearing foul play, or intending it, snatched his gun, retreated a few paces, and deliberately fired at Gen. Miles. Noticing the movement of the Indians, Gen. Miles quickly removed a Henry rifle from his saddle, frightening his horse, which, rearing a little, saved the General's life. The ball passed between him and the horse's neck and killed a cavalryman behind him. Iron Star also began to shoot, the two Indians retreating, receiving a heavy fire from the soldiers, under which both fell dead, riddled with bullets. Lame Deer is said to have received his death wound, from a pistol shot, at the hand of Captain Wheelan, of the 2nd Cavalry.

THE PROSPECT.

General Miles had mounted the four companies of Infantry, "believing that now that the Indians are demoralized they can be chased down and brought in best by mounted force. The Indians no doubt feel keenly the heavy blows dealt them by General Miles, but well informed officers who are serving on the frontier do not believe the war over by any means."

The detachment of 7th Cavalry reached Glendive on the 24th ulto.; those of the 1st and 22nd Infantry reached Tongue River on the 23d, and 2300 sacks of oats and large quantities of other supplies had been landed at the Cantonment. At last accounts the four companies of the 2nd Cavalry and three of the 22nd Infantry were in camp on the Rosebud—D company (McDonald), 5th Infantry, had left for that point with supplies, and 4 mounted companies of the 5th Infantry were camped near the Cantonment ready to take the field at a moment's notice.

We conclude that unless Sitting Bull has menaced the Rosebud command, the Otter creek scout, mentioned in our special of last week, is now under way.

[After the foregoing had gone to press, our dispatches from Tongue river and the command were received.--ED. COURIER.]

SPIRIT OF TERRITORIAL PRESS.

Independent: The President is pursuing a policy that will certainly insure him a Democratic successor, and the reforms that will be inaugurated under his administration will be carried out and enlarged by his Democratic successors.

Independent: The area of grain sown is considerably greater than last year, as the farmers do not generally fear much from grasshoppers. The crop promises to be large, as there will be an abundance of water for irrigating purposes everywhere. The price for all kinds of grain is high, and is likely to remain so.

Herald: We are satisfied that there is a good understanding between Russia and Germany; that there is little danger of Austria intervening, and still less of Italy aiding the Turks. It seems very singular that the Roman hierarchy has ordered prayers in the Catholic churches throughout Bosnia for the success of the Turkish arms. It is only another indication of that infatuation that has for the past ten years been hurrying on the leaders of that Church to its utter debasement and overthrow. The recent outburst of ultramontanism in France seems to have been inspired from the same source, and has met a defiant rebuke from the people of that country. It is England only that gives any anxiety to Russia, and relaxes the arm that is upraised to strike an extinguishing blow to Turkish power. It is folly to think that it is through weakness or fear or inability that Russia tarries on the Danube. As long ago as 1828, when Russia was far less strong and Turkey very much stronger, the Russians swept over European Turkey like a tornado, and could do it even now if so disposed. But past experience has made them cautious. They care not to take what they cannot hold. Their armies are made to wait the hesitating advance of diplomacy.

New North-West: There is no doubt the Utah Northern could so arrange the schedule for their trains that one day could be saved over the present route, but they claim the postal pay is inadequate, except to carry the mails on the regular day accommodation train whereby the day is lost, and they have so far shown no disposition to arrange the schedule in the interest of Montana. If they adhere to this purpose we would be very much pleased to see the stage terminus transferred back to Corinne.

Miner: Mr. Morrison tells a not over flattering tale of the Hills, and says that many Montanians are on their way back. There are from 18,000 to 20,000 men in the Hills; pilgrims were coming in by the hundreds and the labor field is greatly over stocked. Some few claims are paying well, but the number is limited and no new discoveries of note are being made. Business of all kinds is greatly overdone, but prices range very high for necessaries of life, notwithstanding.

Husbandman: The success of the effort to introduce American beef into Europe demonstrates that if dead beef can be transported 3,000 miles by water it can easily be run by rail from here to Chicago or New York. Transportation is, of course, an item, but it does not in any wise compare with the extra cost of feeding necessary to production in the States. In the face of these facts we may very naturally conclude that, as the English stock grower is forced to abandon his calling or seek the shores of a new world, the stock grower of the States will find that the superior facilities of the Territories more than counterbalance the extra cost of transportation, and will push further west to prosecute his business. Montana, second to no other portion of this region, will ere long command the attention due to her advantages, and become as thickly populated as Colorado or New Mexico. The superior quality of our beef and wool is already attracting attention in the East, and will soon create a demand for themselves.

Husbandman: A better and much shorter road can be had from Helena to Benton by crossing the river at the Canyon Ferry or Stubb's ferry, and following an old lumber road as far as Beaver creek, some nine miles beyond New York gulch. From this place it follows up Beaver creek and crosses the mountain over a low divide, and comes down to Smith river about eight miles from its mouth; then follows along the bench land, touching the head of navigation on the opposite side of the river from Benton. This route would shorten the distance at least 30 miles between Helena and Benton. We are informed that there would be but one hill on the route.

The country is of a different nature, much better and more practicable for a wagon road than the one now traveled. The bad lands are avoided, and the distance between watering places is shorter and more direct than by any other route.

Madisonian: These sensational reports of Mormon outrages are becoming monotonous, and it would be a relief if some of them were sifted to the bottom and the grain of truth separated from the mountain of falsehood which surrounds it. It is incredible that so much crime can be committed in a country like Utah without being, in some instances at least, brought home to the perpetrators, and if high-handed terrorism is as rampant as the reports indicate, the fact that its detection and punishment have not been accomplished must be due to the imbecility or criminal complicity of the officials of the law, and calls for their removal and replacement by men who will unearth the criminals.

Herald: We believe our community is blind to its own interest if it does not arouse itself to some different couse of action. Our citizens should meet and organize themselves into a general reception committee and intelligence office combined. We should meet all who come as strangers with a friendly welcome and seek to find them places for work. Some correspondence, some inquiry, some thought, some exertion, and perhaps some expense may attend this, but in doing for others we should remember that we are doing for ourselves. Every industrious citizen that is added to our population increases our wealth and strength, will divide with us the labor of converting our crude natural wealth into marketable and assessable wealth. Indifference and neglect are suicidal and criminal. If we exert ourselves properly, we can add several hundreds and perhaps thousands to our population this year. Every community in the Territory should bestir itself at once. Meet and organize. Begin at once. Every one can do something, if no more than to give a look of welcome and exchange a kind word. But much more can and ought to be done, and we call upon our own citizens, all of them, to come together at once, consider the subject and organize for action.

The Territory.

Lewis & Clarke.

Herald.—Bishop O'Connor has reached Helena, meeting with a cordial reception.

Independent.—The breaking of C. W. Higby's leg by upsetting of a coach has cost Gilmer & Salisbury $5000.—Holzman & Bro., are closing out their clothing stock, and will engage in other business.—The Laronge Opera and Minstrel troupe will locate permanently in Helena.—Geo. McBurney, having discovered fine marble near town, will open a marble yard.

Custer.

New North-West.—The first boat, the Josephine, arrived at Tongue River May 23d at 6 a. m., she was presented with a pair of fine elk horns. The Fanchon touched the landing at 7 p. m., being boat No. 2. The Mead is next in order. We look for her day after to-morrow. There is a good stage of water and we have had plenty of rain lately—60 hours at a stretch, ending during the night of the 21st. To-day we had more rain and hail. An immense cloud burst in the neighborhood, but no damage is reported as yet. Campaigning is quiet, owing to the impossibility of moving over the plains. T.

Deer Lodge.

Miner.—A. J. Davis and Walker Bros. paid out $3000 each for mine and mill labor during May.....The Miner devotes most of its space this week to recapitulation of the history of Butte, as a birthday gift to its readers. It is a good number to send abroad.

New North-West. — Under the new organization of the North-West Company Philipsburg is all right again.... Negotiations are pending with Connecticut capitalists, through whom Butte's copper deposits will be largely worked .... Work has commenced on the new Episcopal church.

Madison.

Madisonian.—Corinne flour has been received by Pfouts.....Pony quartz never was more promising than now.....Glendale has shipped to Omaha 10,156 pounds of bullion.

Meagher.

Husbandman.—The county will export over 125,000 lbs of wool this season..... Grass never was so good upon the Muscleshell as now.....Mr. Kellogg reports the valley of the American Fork the most magnificent tract of farming land to be found in Eastern Montana. This tract is from 10 to 20 miles in width, and extends nearly the full length of the stream, a distance of about 40 miles. It is smooth and easily watered, and the rich black soil is remarkably deep. The American Fork heads in the Crazy Mountains, and is surrounded on all sides by high rolling bench lands, covered with a luxuriant growth of grass. Lower down the Muscleshell, Swimming Woman and Careless creeks come in from the north. There is also a large tract of fine farming land on these streams, all of which is now surveyed and open to settlement.

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