

The Avant Courier.

The Pioneer Paper of Eastern Montana.

MATT. W. ALDERSON, Editor.

THURSDAY, JAN. 17, 1878.

The News.

The Galaxy has suspended publication.

Small pox is raging in Southern Colorado.

London had a million dollar fire on the night of the 11th of January.

On the 4th of January the snow was six inches deep in Richmond, Virginia.

The Mexicans were recently burned to death in Mexico for practicing witchcraft.

Wm. W. Evans has been re-elected President of the New York Bar Association.

A branch of the Bank of Nevada is to be started in New York City with \$20,000,000 capital.

Boss Shepherd, of Washington, fell down on the ice the other day and broke his right leg.

The third flood within two months has recently swept away a number of railroad bridges in Virginia.

Mr. D. R. Locke, "Petroleum W. Nasby," recently sold his interest in the Toledo Weekly Blade for \$92,000.

King Victor Emanuel, of Italy, died on the 8th inst. Prince Humbert has been proclaimed King in Emanuel's stead.

John Norton, of Deer Lodge Valley, was recently fined \$100 and costs in Deer Lodge on complaint of his wife for beating her.

Secretary Jas. H. Mills has removed with his family to Helena, and will reside there until Gov. Potts returns from the East.

On the 11th inst. Wm. Wilson was found dead with a bullet hole through his neck, on the Bismarck road, about twenty miles from Deadwood.

A meeting of the bankers in New York on the 9th inst. took steps towards memorializing Congress against the passage of the pending silver bill.

A man named John Denton had his head split open lately, in Jessamine county, Ky., by a negro. The negro was caught and hung by the people.

The expenses of the Lake Shore railroad company for the season ending in Deer Lodge have aggregated \$483,940.

Nearly half the farmers in Scotland are on the verge of bankruptcy. This is attributed to the very light crops of the past two years, and the enormous rents most of them have to pay.

Three prominent business men of Cheyenne have gone to New York to interview Sidney Dillon and Jay Gould and secure for Cheyenne the starting point of the Black Hills railroad.

It is stated that the President will sign the silver bill whenever submitted to him, having become convinced that the business interests of the country and a majority of the people demand it.

Gen. Sheridan has been informed by the War Department of the ravages of the Blackfoot Indians, who threaten a severe outbreak in Montana that will devastate the ranches and destroy the lives of the white people.

The California Legislature has passed a bill which the Governor signed, authorizing the next election. The question will be, "For Chinese Immigration."

Secretary Schurz dismissed Galpin, Chief Clerk of the Indian Bureau, the chief reasons assigned therefor being cruelty to a subordinate clerk and the neglecting of important papers charging fraud upon certain Indian contractors furnishing supplies to the Pawnees.

There were more drunken men on the streets of Plattsburg, Mo., last Christmas day than were ever seen before in the place, yet there are no saloons there and no place where liquor is sold. The temperance people will be called upon to account for this strange state of affairs.

An appropriation of \$8,000 will be asked of Congress by the Commissioner of Agriculture to pay the expenses of a commission to examine and report upon the subject of forestry. This is to form a basis for legislation for the preservation of our timber, similar to the forestry laws of Europe.

WASHINGTON, January 8.—It is stated that the Secretary of the Interior is rapidly maturing vigorous measures, based upon the report of his Board of Inquiry, for the purification of the Indian service. The dismissal of a number of officials now connected with it is certain, and it is intimated that lightning may soon strike in another form in an unexpected quarter.

Judge H. X. Maguire is endeavoring to organize an agricultural colony, to settle the coming Spring, in Pennington county, Black Hills. He went to the Black Hills among the first, over two years ago, and has since been working indefatigably to promote the development of the material resources of the Hills. His colony enterprise promises to be a success. He is aided in the movement by influential and public-spirited men, among them Hon. H. H. Fish, of Utah, N. Y., and James L. Jackson, of the Jackson iron works, New York City.

Advices from Washington of December 31st say: Great excitement has prevailed here since Saturday because of the terrible outrage perpetrated upon a young lady in the eastern part of the city last Saturday. A movement is on foot for the organization of a vigilance committee to patrol the streets. Two negroes were arrested yesterday on suspicion, and but for strong protests of the police, the crowd would have taken the matter in their own hands and summary punishment would have been visited upon at least one of them then and there. A largely attended indignation meeting was held last evening.

Hon. Wm. E. Chandler, member of the National Republican Committee for New Hampshire, has created a little political stir lately by addressing an open letter to the Republicans of his State, arraigning President Hayes for bargains made during the electoral count and for abandoning the principles of his party. He alleges that a bargain was made with the Democrats, whereby Hayes was to be counted in as President, the troops were to be withdrawn from the South and Chamberlain and F. were abandoned. Many prominent men are named by Chandler as having been prominently connected with this bargain, every one of whom pronounces the story a falsehood. Secretary Sherman says: "There is no truth whatever in the story. I never made any such bargain, and I do not believe any of the others did." Maj. Burke, of New Orleans, says: "If any bargains were made by Hayes I never heard of them." The New York Post thinks "a man who deliberately puts upon paper such a sensational story as this, and who subjects his subjects in 'Upper Maine' to such a political knife, his unsupported assertions about bargains will count for nothing."

EMIGRANT QUENCH AND CROW RESERVE.

We have heard a rumor, but have not been able to trace it to any reliable source, that the miners and other old settlers at Emigrant Gulch were soon to be ordered off the Crow Reservation. We trust that no such insane policy will ever be adopted. Emigrant and vicinity was settled and worked by white men long before any treaty was made with the Crows, and it was a piece of the grossest injustice to include Emigrant in the Crow Reservation in the first place. The Crows neither needed nor claimed it when the treaty was made, but it was our misfortune to have no one present at the treaty council held in Laramie to represent the rights of the people or the interests of the Territory.

We believe, however, the Crows would long ago have given consent to such change of the west reservation line as would open for settlement and occupancy all the upper portion of the Yellowstone, from the Old Agency or even the Boulder, but for the interference of ill-willed and meddlesome parties. We are confident the interests of the Territory will very soon require and demand this. At all events, any attempt to dispossess the brave little band of miners who have held undisputed possession of Emigrant for nearly fourteen years would be the height of folly, and the instigators of such an unjust measure would most assuredly come to grief.

NAVIGATION OF THE YELLOWSTONE.

The navigation of the Yellowstone river is no longer a matter of question, the operation of this season having clearly demonstrated that its current can be stemmed, and has inspired staunch men and shippers with a confidence which warrants a further test. We have it from good authority that a line of steamers will ply upon this stream the coming Summer, connecting with land transportation, which will deliver goods to various points in the Territory. Like the Upper Missouri, it has required years to thoroughly demonstrate the practicality of navigating this river. The first attempts, though not a total failure, were, to say the least, very disheartening. In 1875 the steamer Josephine, under employ of the Government, surveyed the river to a point now called Coulson, eight miles above Baker's Battle Ground, and pronounced navigation entirely feasible to this point, but it was not until last year, when actual necessity demanded it, that it has been put to practical use, but there is little doubt that hereafter it will receive its share of the commerce of Montana. The chief advantage to Eastern Montana in this route is the great saving in distance. The head of navigation on the Yellowstone is about 550 miles above its mouth—130 from Bozeman, 120 from Helena, P. W. McAdow & Bro. intend entering into the forwarding and commission business at Coulson, and have a large train for transportation. Their saw mill and 60 acres farm are located near this place, they have the lumber on the ground, and will soon commence the erection of a large warehouse. It has already been decided that the Government stores for Fort Ellis and Camp Baker are to come over this route. The establishment of a reliable navigation on the Yellowstone will be of incalculable benefit to Meagher county. The distance from Coulson to the Forks of the Musselshell is not more than 50 miles, over a beautiful, rolling, well watered prairie country, with no bad lands to interfere. From the Forks of the Musselshell to the wool producing district of the county, 35 miles, which would make a land transportation for wool of only 85 miles, against 125 at present to Benton, with a saving of several hundred miles of navigation.—Husbandman, 10th inst.

WOOD AND LUMBER TAX.

The following remonstrance against the excessive tax levied by the Government on wood and lumber is being circulated over the Territory for signatures:

To the Honorable the Secretary of the Interior, the Senate and House of Representatives of the Forty-fifth Congress of the United States, your Memorialist would respectfully represent that:

WHEREAS, the citizens of Montana have, during their residence in this Territory, exercised the same privileges as settlers upon the public domain as have been sanctioned and recognized by the Government and time honored customs since the first settlement of land in the United States; and

WHEREAS, in the occupancy of the land in a new country where markets are not established in which to purchase the real necessities, such as fuel, building material, etc., it is as natural to procure these in the most convenient places as it is to breathe the free air of heaven; and

WHEREAS, in distant Montana, while the settlers are improving and making valuable the public domain and use the wood and timber for domestic purposes only, a tax of one dollar per cord on wood and two dollars per thousand on lumber is levied and collected by the Government officials amongst us, which is onerous, unjust, and a burden to all alike; and

WHEREAS, it has been represented to the Government that the people here were satisfied with and acquiesced in the taxes above enumerated, we positively deny that any such satisfaction exists, and on the contrary assert that there is universal complaint and wide-spread dissatisfaction, and believing the tax exorbitant and distressing to the general consumer, we respectfully ask that the order for the levy be rescinded and in all cases where the tax has been paid that the money be returned;

WHEREAS, The orders, as interpreted by the officials here, work a total prohibition to cut wood and lumber hereafter, we respectfully ask that they be instructed to grant the same privileges and rights in the premises as have heretofore prevailed in this and in all new Territories; and

WHEREAS, It is necessary in Montana to cut wood in the winter, when the timber is frozen for the next year's consumption, and (as these are now enforced, will, in another season, leave the people without fire to keep their warm, and the mills and mines profitless for the want of fuel and lumber; and

WHEREAS, The prohibition to cut timber ignores and makes it impossible to comply with the provisions of the pre-emption laws in acquiring agricultural and mineral lands where fencing, buildings and other improvements are necessary to obtain title from the public lands) we ask without hardship to emigrants who come expecting to settle and make homes on the public domain in Montana, we respectfully and most earnestly re-mostrate against any tax whatever on fuel and lumber while the people are struggling for existence in a country cut off from the conveniences and cheap living in the States. As well might His Majesty, the King of Denmark levy a royalty upon the blocks of ice which he habitually dwells in "Upper Maine" construct his subjects in "Upper Maine" by taxes or lack of legislation the pioneers who carve out and make valuable to the Government of the United States vast areas of land, which, without their industry and heroic struggles, might remain unused and profitless forever; and

WHEREAS, The timbered lands of Montana are mostly unsurveyed and are mountainous and not suitable for tillage, they are unlike those in the prairie States, which need but to be cleared to make them more productive, while ours are found upon precipitous mountain sides, totally without any value except for their rocks and firewood; and

WHEREAS, We are left without any law by which we can either pre-empt, homestead or procure title to any timber land, it is evident there must be relief, and that soon, or else we will be obliged to give up our homes, quit the country and abandon the great and growing West for a retrograde movement upon the over-crowded communities of the East.

And, as in duty bound, we will ever pray.

JUSTICE TO THE TERRITORIES.

Last week we referred briefly to a bill which has been introduced into the House of Representatives by Hon. J. P. Kiddler, Delegate to Congress from Dakota. The Constitution provides that "Congress shall guarantee to every State in the Union a republican form of government," and it is but simple justice to us that we should be allowed the same form instead of the present system, which gives the President and Senate of the United States the power to appoint, to rule over, the Governor, Secretary, Judges, District Attorney, Marshal, and others. Bills granting the right to the Territories to govern themselves have been introduced heretofore, but have failed to pass, the strongest objection brought being that the Territories could not stand the expense. This bill overcomes this objection by appropriating the sum of \$25,000 yearly to each Territory. The following is the full text of the bill:

A BILL.

To guarantee to the people of the several Territories a republican form of government, and to secure them in the right of local self-government.

Be it enacted, etc., That at the next general election for Delegate to Congress in each of the Territories of the United States, there shall be chosen by the qualified electors thereof, the following named Territorial officers: One Governor, one Secretary, one Chief Justice and two Associate Justices of the Supreme Court, one Superintendent of Public Lands, and one Commissioner of Immigration; and the terms of office shall commence on the first day of January, eighteen hundred and seventy-nine, and continue until their successors are elected and qualified.

Sec. 2. That the Legislative assembly of each of the several Territories shall, at the next ensuing session after the passage of this act, provide, by law, for carrying it into effect, and shall fix the terms for which the Territorial officers shall hold their respective offices, and the times at which their successors shall be elected. They shall provide the manner in which any Territorial officer shall be subjected to impeachment and removal from office; and all Territorial officers whose offices are created by the Legislative assembly shall be elected or appointed, as may be provided by said Legislative assembly.

Sec. 3. That for the purpose of encouraging settlement of the public domain, and aiding in the formation and government of the communities established thereon, there shall be annually paid from the Treasury of the United States, commencing on the first day of January, Anno Domini eighteen hundred and seventy-nine, the sum of twenty-five thousand dollars, to aid in maintaining the government thereof, which said sum of money shall be in lieu of all appropriations heretofore made for legislative, executive and judicial salaries and expenses of the several Territories; and said sum of money shall be paid from the Treasury of the United States upon the requisition of the Secretary of the Territory, who shall execute bonds, for the faithful disbursement of said moneys.

4. That in order to secure economy in the administration of the governments of the several Territories, the Legislative assemblies thereof shall be prohibited from increasing the salaries of said Territorial officers and members and employees of the Legislative assembly, as now established by law, without the consent of Congress first had and obtained; but nothing herein shall be construed to prevent the reduction of the compensation of any such officers or employees.

Sec. 5. That the powers, jurisdiction and authority of all officers heretofore enumerated shall be and remain as now provided by law, in the same manner and to the same extent as if said officers were appointed by authority of the Government of the United States.

Sec. 6. That nothing in this act shall be construed to interfere with the right of Congress to provide such temporary governments heretofore organized as it shall deem proper.

7. That all laws and parts of laws inconsistent with the provisions of this act be, and the same are hereby repealed.

RECENT RUSSIAN VICTORIES.

The Russians have lately captured Shipka Pass, crossing the Balkans after suffering incredibly from the severity of the cold weather. After a few hours fighting, the Turks, being surrounded, became demoralized and surrendered after a short but bitter resistance. The losses of the Russians are reported at 300 killed and 2,000 wounded.

A correspondent at Vienna says that at Shipka Pass the Russians captured 28,000 men, 1,000 horses, 12 mortars, 12 siege guns, and 80 field guns.

BRITAIN, January 11.—Nichols surrendered this morning in consequence of the capture by storm yesterday and Wednesday of Gorizia-Venik and all the other heights commanding the fortress. The Serbian loss is considerable. It is reported that the garrison which surrendered to the Serbians, numbered 8,000 men, with 50 cannon, 12,000 rifles, and a number of flags.

GETTISBURG, January 11.—Antivari surrendered unconditionally to the Montenegrins yesterday.

Since these victories, Turkey has asked Russia her conditions for peace.

A Villainous Crime.

Louisa Davis, who was sentenced at the recent term of court here to one hour's imprisonment in the county jail, would, in all probability, have been better off if the sentence had been one year instead of one hour, having been the victim of some evil disposed person in Butte, on Monday evening last, to an extent which will result in her disfigurement for life, if, indeed, it does not cause her death. The particulars as near as we can learn them, are as follows: On Monday evening, about dusk, Mrs. Davis heard some one rapping at the door. Going to the door, she had it partly opened, suspecting nothing, when some person in human shape threw a lot of vitriol in her face. Her piteous screams aroused the neighborhood. On going to the house she was found to have been badly burned by the liquid. Medical aid was summoned

and it was found that all of one side of her face and her head, and part of her body, were fearfully burned. Everything that could be done was willingly done, but she was in great agony at last accounts, and the physicians who dressed her wounds say that she will be terribly disfigured, and that one eye is entirely gone. There is no clue as to who threw the vitriol. John Davis, her husband, was arrested on suspicion, but as nothing could be proven against him at the trial on Tuesday, he was discharged. He was, however, advised by several of the citizens of Butte to leave there as soon as possible, and our informant says he left on Wednesday morning. Raffale, a notorious character, and a resident of Montana for several years, and to whom Mrs. Davis is indebted in a great measure for the manner of life she has led in the past, was also arrested on suspicion of having had a hand in the outrage, and was to have had a hearing on Wednesday. Our informant says the residents of Butte are considerably worked up over the affair; that the parties mentioned have been a continual annoyance to the people of Butte since their residence there, and that they will have no more such outrageous proceedings.—New North-West.

TELEGRAMS.

What the Administration will Do About Chinese Immigration.

WASHINGTON, January 9.—The Chinese immigration representatives, Luttrell and Page, had an interview with the President yesterday in regard to Chinese immigration on the Pacific coast. They presented the resolution that was recently passed by the California Legislature on the subject, and told the President that both political parties in the State were a unit on this question. The President said that the subject had been carefully considered by the Cabinet, and that while he sympathized with the people of California, yet the Chinese had treaty rights which this government must respect. He would, however, call the attention of Congress to the subject and suggest that negotiations be opened with the Chinese government with a view of fixing some limitation on immigration from that country.

DISTRESSING FIRE.

POTTSVILLE, Pa., January 6.—The fire in the mine at Summit hill still burns fiercely. The ground continues to give away, and in addition to the engine house, with its valuable machinery, that went down yesterday, it is now feared that the fan house, used for purifying the air in the mines, will soon fall. Five men working at the burning mine were overcome by the sulphur, but it is thought they will recover. The loss thus far will probably reach \$50,000.

The breaker at the Ellen Gowan colliery, Lannigan's patch, near Shenandoah, burning last night. The colliery is a large one, shipping about 100 cars of coal daily. The loss is about \$75,000, and 100 men and boys are thrown out of work.

MONTANA NEWS.

[Battle Miner.]

A very certain record of the growth of our town is found in the statistics of the post office. For some years previous to '75 the average number of letters annually received at Butte was 2,300. In '75 this number took a sudden bound to 6,000, which was again further increased to 21,000 in '76 while the letters mailed in '77 numbered something above 43,000. During those years the population has increased at about the same rate per cent. as the letters.

[Husbandman.]

We have been informed that Henry Klein, L. Auerbach and I. D. Burt, now already extensively engaged in sheep husbandry, are negotiating with parties in California for 20,000 head. Should the purchase be made, the sheep will be driven in next summer and placed upon their ranches in this country.

[Missoulian.]

Omur V. G. Gregg, a former Missoulian typo, dropped in on us Wednesday night. He is doing his best to Christianize the Flatheads by reprinting the Bible in their language.

As the Bitter Root coach was coming down last week, the front axle broke on a down grade, releasing one of the wheels, and throwing the driver, Bill McKay, some distance from the coach. The team started on a run and Mrs. W. J. McCormick, the only passenger, threw her babe out of the coach as gently as the circumstances would permit, and retained her seat behind the runaway team to the station—no one hurt. Fortunately, the babe was not hurt. Mrs. McCormick received no injury further than a good scare, and Bill McKay came off with nothing worse than a strained ankle.

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We notice that Sheriff Hoppy, of Custer county, has appointed Thomas H. Irvine, Jr., late of this county, as under-Sheriff. The appointment is a good one. "Tom" is well known and well liked in Deer Lodge and will have host of friends wherever he may go.

UTAH AND NORTHERN.

[From a Correspondent.]

Mr. Dunn has concluded not to lay track any further this fall but will until March, and has discharged all men engaged in track laying. The track is now laid to the top of the hill at Bear river, about 10 miles from Franklin. All the grading is completed for twenty miles, with one exception, that being a fill one hundred feet high on Battle creek. Work on that and the bridge over Bear river will go on thro' the winter and both will be completed by the first of March, when the track will be laid twenty miles from Franklin, and the terminus moved to that point. Proceedings are going on to foreclose the mortgage on the old part of the road and some time this winter the road will be sold out by foreclosure sale and a new company formed.

Rumor says that our worthy Bishop John Sharp, of Salt Lake City, will be President of the new company, and a better selection could not be made. The meaning of all this is that this road, from the time of the forming of the new company, will be an adopted child of the Union Pacific railroad company and by them pushed on to Snake river. Col. Wolcott, engineer in charge, has run a preliminary line forty miles from Franklin and finds the grade light and the ground favorable for building the road. I think, however, that no more contracts will be let until Spring, as all the engineering corps except Col. Wolcott have returned to Utah for the winter.

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If you visit Helena or Virginia City With the Intention of Buying Clothing, do not fail to examine Greenhood, Bohm & Co's STOCK OF CLOTHING AND Gents' Furnishing Goods! Their Goods are all warranted to be as represented, and One Price for All.

READ THIS. With a view of Closing Out my entire stock of Merchandise, Bottom Prices First of Jan., 1878, sell all kinds of Goods at T. BRUNETT. A. Lamme, J. L. Hallock, J. S. Mendenhall, J. L. Hallock.

General Merchandise Livery, Feed & Sale STABLES, Groceries, Dry Goods, CLOTHING, BOOTS AND SHOES, Ladies' Goods, Meat Market, D. MAXEY, Prop'r.

Miles City, Montana. B. F. Cline & Co. Proprietors. THE BEST AND CHEAPEST PLACE TO BUY MEAT IN THE CITY. The Choicest Meats Always on Hand. Don't forget to call at my market, one door East of T. Brunett's.

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Miles City BAKERY! JOHN MANEJ Proprietor. BREAD, PIES, CAKES, OYSTERS, SARDINES, CANNED FRUITS, &c. I use the best material, and customers can rely on obtaining good articles. Call and see me when you visit Miles. Bakery on Front street above Casey.

Picture Frames. We are selling our stock of Picture Frames, AT CONF. CALLEE & CATLIN. BOZEMAN, September 17th. 1877.

City Meat Market ALEX. PROFFITT, Prop'r. Wholesale & Retail DEALER IN ALL KINDS OF MEATS, BRICK BLOCK, MAIN STREET, BOZEMAN, MONTANA. J. H. TAYLOR Keeps constantly on hand a full line of Stationery, at reduced prices. School and Miscellaneous Books, Prang's American Chromo Pictures, Frames and Fixtures, Picture Cornice Mountings, P. H. Brackett's Nuts, Tobacco and Cigars, Candy Goods.

General Merchandise Livery, Feed & Sale STABLES, Groceries, Dry Goods, CLOTHING, BOOTS AND SHOES, Ladies' Goods, Meat Market, D. MAXEY, Prop'r.

Miles City, Montana. B. F. Cline & Co. Proprietors. THE BEST AND CHEAPEST PLACE TO BUY MEAT IN THE CITY. The Choicest Meats Always on Hand. Don't forget to call at my market, one door East of T. Brunett's.

Miles City BAKERY! JOHN MANEJ Propriet