

The Avant Courier.

MATT. W. ALDERSON, Editor.

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 12, 1878.

THE "COURIER" AND THE CROW AGENCY MATTERS.

Another buccaneer correspondent for the "War" Department, under the name of "A. L.," has been the recipient of the Herald of the 4th inst., to show the Crow Agency, including the late agent, Frost, has been transferred to the War Department, and placed under the immediate supervision and absolute control of Gen. Brislin, and that the "Courier" and Alderson, and Frost, and everybody else, except Gen. Brislin and "Gallatin" are certainly mistaken and "must be set right" on this all-important subject. No doubt, we have but little interest in this matter, either one way or the other. Personally, it makes no difference to us whether Brislin, or Browning, or Doane, or Frost, or Bullis, or Miller, is agent of the Crows, so long as those Indians are properly cared for and restrained in their horse-stealing and scalp-taking propensities. But, as journalists, we are interested in furnishing the public with the news, events and happenings of the day in the most truthful and reliable form possible. This has been our constant aim. How far we have succeeded in the laudable undertaking, we leave to the decision of a discerning public. We have been flattering ourselves, however, that if there was any one feature of the COURIER more meritorious than another it was its honest endeavor in seeking, and its uniform success in finding, and stating, the truth. In other words, the COURIER has not been in the habit of starting anything at random, of talking a course only, or of drifting with every wind or blowing with every tide. Not being owned or controlled, directly or indirectly, by any clique, or firm, or corporation, or department, it has been no less free than determined to adhere strictly to the principles of truth and justice, both in its news and editorial columns, and so far as the course of the COURIER is concerned, it has never had good cause or occasion, under its present management, to take anything back, to apologize for anything done or said, or in any way to feel ashamed of its record.

But, it appears that we have arrived at an important crisis in our history; that we have made a grievous mistake in crediting the information that orders had been received to transfer the Crow Agency immediately to Gen. Brislin and the War Department, and that the late agent, Frost, and send him under military guard to Fort Ellis; in short, and in the language of a military chief, "Alderson is mistaken and must be set right."

Now, while we entertain nothing except feelings of friendship and respect for Gen. Brislin, yet, in view of the fact that the General is no "slouch" of a newspaper correspondent, himself—the pen being a much more formidable weapon in his hands than the sword—we may be pardoned for thinking that it would have been full as well for him to have done his own writing, especially, while there were no threatening clouds of war to disturb his military equilibrium. However, under the charitable impulse of furnishing additional employment to the voluntary stinky who aspires to be amanuensis to the General, we will venture to say that, if being "set right" implies a transfer of the COURIER or its publications to the War Department, or to any military or other officers, then we beg to be excused and respectfully decline the so-called honor.

Possibly, we may be very obtuse, but we fail to see how the statements of the Herald's correspondent, "A. L.," regarding Brislin's authority and supervision over the Crow Agency, and the present status of affairs at the Agency, are, in any material point, at variance with the statements of the COURIER. That representations had been made to the Interior Department to the effect that Agent Frost had disregarded or resisted the order of the President in his suspension we did not deny, although recent facts and developments, we think, go very far towards contradicting the truth of such representations; but, acting on their presurable truth, the Interior Department applies to the Secretary of War, asking that General Brislin be ordered to detail an officer with a squad of soldiers, if necessary, to accompany Inspector Bullis and, if necessary, seize the Agency property and, "if he should resist," to arrest Frost and send him under guard to Fort Ellis. The sequel shows that, as stated by the COURIER, Inspector Bullis was sent to relieve Frost, with authority, if necessary, to call on the military commandant at Fort Ellis for assistance, and that everything connected with military orders in the premises were contingent upon his and his.

That neither Brislin, nor Browning, nor Inspector Bullis, once thought that force would be necessary in the removal of Agent Frost is apparent from the fact that no company—not even a Corporal's guard—of soldiers was detailed to accompany Capt. Browning to the Agency. He simply accompanied Inspector Bullis to the Agency and in his presence (and no doubt under his supervision and instructions) assisted by Agent Frost and the Agency employes, inventoried the property, passes receipts, takes formal possession of the Agency, surrendering it almost immediately to Inspector Bullis, and, without delay, returns to Fort Ellis.

So much in regard to the "much-ado about nothing"—the seizure of the Crow Agency by the military, the arrest of Frost and his incarceration in a Fort Ellis bastion.

Thus, it will be seen, the result is more unfortunate for the statements of "Gallatin" and "A. L." than we had ever anticipated. The COURIER would remain in charge until the arrival of the regularly appointed agent, but it appears that Inspector Bullis did not deem this advisable, so he decided to excuse Browning at once, and remain in charge himself until the arrival of Miller.

Now, with Inspector Bullis in charge of the Crow Agency, with the late Agent Frost, like a stag at bay, still standing his ground, and occasionally placing his antlers beneath an infuriated antagonist and sending him whirling into the air, we fall to see just wherein the "Courier" was mistaken, or in what respect "Alderson" should be set right."

In closing this complimentary notice, we have just a few words to say in regard to those "charges" referred to by "A. L.," and which exhausted the ample digits in their enumeration. "Let us see—1, 2, 3, (counting)—see what a fix (aside)—4, 5, 6—a dozen in all. But you can't see them." (That's rough on the reporter.—Ed. COURIER.) "Frost may, you know, not be guilty."

Now, we ask, in all seriousness, what Brislin has to do with a series of charges

against Frost? Frost is not an army officer to be tried by court-martial, neither is Brislin invested with judicial authority to try a civil officer of the United States. On the other hand, it is Brislin who has been furnished by the Interior Department with a copy of specific charges against Frost, for the purpose of investigation or to obtain any information he may possess relative thereto, why should he bandy them about or even refer to them except in the discharge of a most sacred trust?

Among all the charges against military officers, preceding the numerous court-martials which have been, from time to time, held at the various military posts in Montana, we have not heard of a single instance where a copy of such charges were furnished to a civilian; but so sacredly are the characters and reputations of military officers guarded, even though public offices may have been committed, that it is seldom either charges or proceedings are made public or permitted to be noised abroad or anything, in fact, but the findings of the courts allowed to find into the public prints. But, *ser contra*, it appears that a United States Indian agent has no rights that any man is legally, or in honor, bound to respect. He is, almost invariably charged with all manner of crimes before he has fairly entered upon the duties of his office, and before he has gained sufficient experience to be of efficient service to the Indians or a valuable officer of the Government, he may consider himself extremely fortunate, if he has not been unceremoniously hurled from his position and "hounded" out of the country by the combined influences of envy, prejudice and avarice.

Mr. Miller, the newly-appointed agent for the Crows, now on his way here, is no doubt an excellent man (however suitable or unsuitable he may be for the important and arduous position) else he could hardly have secured the appointment, and even General Brislin says: "I had good reports of him." Yet, judging from the history and experience of all his predecessors, it is safe to predict that before he shall have been here twelve months he will in all probability be charged with all manner of "crookedness," and that a popular clamor will be raised against him sufficient to sink him in, apparent, obliquity and thus effect his removal.

Unlike the Herald, the COURIER has never been an ardent admirer of Frost, nor has it been inordinate in praise of his management of affairs at the Crow Agency, but we do desire to see the man treated with some sort of fairness and justice. If he has been guilty of official misconduct or any crime, he is amenable to the Interior Department and the civil courts for his conduct; and, judging from his preliminary steps already taken and the strong prejudices which appear to possess the public mind, there is little ground for apprehending that he will escape the severest penalty of any law which he may have violated during his brief official career.

THE WHITE ELEPHANT—WHAT WILL BECOME OF IT?

Now that the new silver dollar has had a fair chance to demonstrate its worth or its superiority over gold and greenbacks, we may be allowed to pause and ask, if the demonization of silver has met the expectations of its enthusiastic advocates of a year ago? It will require but little investigation or argument to show that the grand scheme which was to have been one of the most bold, as well as one of the most beneficial strokes of financial policy ever devised by American statesmen, has yielded few if any satisfactory returns, and has really turned out a miserable and disgraceful failure. Indeed, the very propositions upon which the act for the coinage and legal tender of the new silver dollar was based, were manifestly so unsound in theory, dishonest in practice and absurd in all clear-sighted connection with the action of Browning and the present status of affairs at the Agency, are, in any material point, at variance with the statements of the COURIER. That representations had been made to the Interior Department to the effect that Agent Frost had disregarded or resisted the order of the President in his suspension we did not deny, although recent facts and developments, we think, go very far towards contradicting the truth of such representations; but, acting on their presurable truth, the Interior Department applies to the Secretary of War, asking that General Brislin be ordered to detail an officer with a squad of soldiers, if necessary, to accompany Inspector Bullis and, if necessary, seize the Agency property and, "if he should resist," to arrest Frost and send him under guard to Fort Ellis. The sequel shows that, as stated by the COURIER, Inspector Bullis was sent to relieve Frost, with authority, if necessary, to call on the military commandant at Fort Ellis for assistance, and that everything connected with military orders in the premises were contingent upon his and his.

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—Written for the AVANT COURIER.—

"THE CHINESE MUST GO."

This shibboleth of the agitators of the Pacific coast, will, in the near future, become the cry of the entire people of this nation, if some restrictive measures are not adopted relative to the Mongolian immigration. The people of the East, from Mongolia, imagine them to be the subject of deep-seated and unnecessary prejudice on the part of the whites. It would require but a few days' residence in San Francisco to disabuse their minds of this idea. Is it not enough to cause serious apprehensions when we see in a population of 350,000 a colony of 40,000 Chinamen? A people who by their rigid economy in living can under work the average laborer, and in this way secure a monopoly of all branches of employment, forcing the whites from every field of industry, thereby entailing upon the natural population of a country a state of suffering and pauperism that cannot be stemmed. This, with many other very important objectionable features of their presence, is a just cause for the warfare that has been raised against them by the working people of the Pacific coast. Some of the Eastern journals say, "The great market of the East is now full, they will gravitate to the West." Now, the reverse of this is the actual fact, for landing on the Pacific coast, they fill up all the avenues of industry and then naturally gravitate to the East where they push the white man to the wall and over it.

Having passed a short season in the "Bay City," I am able, from observation, to express a very decided opinion as to the evils that will result from an unrestricted immigration of these pestiferous creatures upon humanity. Their very mode of living is enough in itself to excite the loathing and contempt of even the filthiest of Caucasians. In numerous instances a room 12x12 would be found to be occupied by as many as fifteen or twenty Chinamen, under the sanitary statute, known as the "Cubic Air Law," became an urgent necessity. By this law it became a misdemeanor to live in rooms affording less than 500 cubic feet of air per man.

They have no moral sense of the obligation of an oath and perjury among them is very common. And they have no regard for our institutions, having their own secret tribunals of justice; and the Chinamen who by some mischance incurs the displeasure of the hirelings of the "Six Companies" is very soon gotten rid of through the medium of the hired assassin. They have no moral sense of the obligation of an oath and perjury among them is very common. And they have no regard for our institutions, having their own secret tribunals of justice; and the Chinamen who by some mischance incurs the displeasure of the hirelings of the "Six Companies" is very soon gotten rid of through the medium of the hired assassin.

ANTI-CHINESE.

News of the Week.

—Five new steamers are announced for the Upper Missouri river next season. The revenues of India will pay for the recent war movements against Afghanistan.

—Twelve to fifteen Chinamen have been naturalized in New York city within the last 20 days.

The latest is the "White Ribbon" movement, formed to discourage the use of tobacco. Its motto is "Dare to be Decent."

—A mob of lawless Kentuckians recently took possession of the town of Jackson, killing several citizens who attempted to preserve law and order.

—A private letter received in this city from A. F. Sears, of Banack, says in a postscript: "As the Agent was taking the Indians from Salmon City, who have been in jail in that place for some time, the people took them from him and shot them."

—A New York correspondent writes: "Poor Mr. Tilden is a physical wreck. I saw him this week in the Park. He is a mere shadow of his former self. He walks feebly, and his paralyzed hand hangs uselessly at his side. His speech is thick, and careful attention is needed to understand him. He is a good liver, and fond of strong drinks."

—Edison's application for a patent for his electric light has been refused by the Examiner of Patents, on the ground that some thirty-five years ago models somewhat similar to his were filed, and a patent granted. The inventor is dead, and never made any use of his invention during his lifetime, but the Patent Office officials think this an infringement. Edison has taken an appeal.

Deserted.—\$20 Reward.

WILSON'S LETTERS.

Items of Interest Gathered on the Yellowstone by our Traveling Correspondent.

We are indebted to Mr. Joe Allen, of Sherman, for the following list of votes cast in Custer county at the late election:

Miles City, 388; Simpson, 35; Coulson, 18; Froze-to-Death, 17; Brockway, 14; Sherman, 28; Huntley, 20.

Owing to irregularities, the votes from all the precincts but two—Miles City and Sherman—were thrown out. This defeated Warren, who would otherwise have been elected Probate Judge, and gave Carmichael a majority of from 50 to 60.

Capt. Reed, 11th Infantry, having charge of the party constructing the telegraph line between Keogh and Custer, met with an accident last Sunday, Nov. 22d. The ground being covered with snow, his horse stepped into a hole and fell with him, badly bruising his foot.

Greenwood & Day, who have leased the saw mill of McAdow Bros., at Coulson, have succeeded in getting in their drive of logs. These logs were cut at different points on the Yellowstone, some as far as Stillwater. There are from 2500 to 3000 in the drive. The mill will be put in operation in a short time, and a large supply of lumber placed in market. This will supply a pressing want to the whole valley. Much building has been deferred, as lumber could not be had for love or money.

The thieving of the Crow Indians having caused much annoyance to the settlers along the Yellowstone and given rise to fears of trouble of a serious nature, we took the opportunity of a "travelling down the valley" to ascertain as near as possible what deceptions had been committed, with the following result: The house of Mr. Joseph Gee, whose ranch is at the mouth of the Rosebud, was broken into, and his supplies of sugar, bacon, and potatoes carried off. Mr. Smith's cabin, which is a short distance from Mr. Gee's, was entered, and all his provisions and blankets taken. On Pease's Pottor and about 400 pounds of potatoes taken, and several of his chickens were killed by dogs. A number of articles were taken from the ranch of Mr. John Straus. Mr. Lindley is a loser to the extent of ten bushels of potatoes. Mr. C. P. Ohlson, who has a herd of cattle there, was greatly annoyed by the young bucks who found it very agreeable pasture to run his stock.

One of his best cows was killed in this way. They were committed by the same party, who, being encouraged by their inherent disregard of the obligations of an oath, are no way backward in the violation of the Statutes, principally those bearing on theft, in its many forms, and murder.

But the cry has been raised that "Our country is an asylum for the oppressed of all nations." While admitting that as the spirit of our institutions, we must except the Chinese for many and potent reasons, that it is not our purpose to discuss in the present paper. When we admit to the enjoyment of all the privileges of our citizenship, the presence of our nation, we demand their strict conformity with our laws and unwritten customs and usages, and when we find a people who as a nation violate the former and ignore the latter with impunity, and who by their natural disgusting habits tend to corrupt and destroy all with whom they come in contact, it is our duty to not only debar them from the enjoyment of the blessings of the country, but to drive them from the country. Their presence is contaminating, and the wages that they earn are locked up to be shipped to China, thus enriching that country at our expense by removing the money from circulation.

I have mentioned but few of the evils resulting from the immigration of the Mongolians.

ADMINISTRATOR'S NOTICE.

In the Probate Court of Gallatin County, Montana Territory.

In the matter of the estate of HORATIO N. GAGE, deceased.

Notice is hereby given by the undersigned Administrator of the Probate Court, that all persons having claims against the said deceased are to exhibit them to the necessary vouchers within four months after the first publication of this notice to the said Administrator, at his residence at Lake's Ranch, Yellowstone Valley, Gallatin County, Montana.

CLINE & LAFFERTY.

Having opened a first-class livery, feed and sale stable as respectfully solicit a share of public patronage.

In connection with our stable, we also run a coal conveyer for the accommodation of freighters, stock men and others.

Plastering,

Choice Family Groceries

Just opened at the New Store, one door east of L. S. Wilson's corner.

Montana in a Nut-Shell.

Sawtelle's theatre, in Helena, is being enlarged.

Dr. Anson Ford, postmaster at Butte, died on 3rd inst., aged 72 years.

The Butte school district has 320 children, of whom 441 are of school age.

Territorial warrants recently sold in Helena for one-fourth per cent. premium.

During the month of November there was melted at the Helena Assay Office \$40,125 73 gold, and \$68,402 28 silver.

The settlements in Meagher county are pushing eastward so rapidly that it will be necessary to extend the mail service at least 30 miles eastward from Martinsdale the coming spring.

Last Saturday as Mr. E. W. Toole went to his office on Jackson street he slipped on the ice and fell heavily, breaking two of his ribs. He was doing quite well yesterday.—Independent, Dec. 3rd.

Director Linderman's report, recently issued, contains a vast amount of valuable statistical matter, showing the precious metal products, the amounts of bullion received and treated at the several assay offices, and much other valuable information bearing upon the mining industry of the country. At the New York Assay Office the gold and silver bars manufactured and parted amounted for the fiscal year of 1878 to \$28,830,005.47. The bars manufactured from bullion at the several other assay offices are reported as follows:

Helena, M. T. \$716,738.41
Denver, Col. 362,807.65
Boise, Idaho 62,588.54
New Orleans 25,855.84
New York 18,554.17

The Helena Assay Office, treating more bullion than the four other assay offices combined, is operated at an expense less than any one of them.—Herald.

NEW STOVES!

Chicago, November 30.—The Journal's Washington special says: Speaker Randall, after consultation with many Democratic members, is satisfied that the appropriation bills will be passed in such a shape as to obviate the necessity for an extra session on the 4th of March. He says the Democrats do not desire the Forty-sixth Congress to meet before the regular time in 1879.

How Sensitive a Girl in Love is.

They were sitting in an open buggy on the cross-road and bounded on one side by the wood and on the other by an orchard. The first he heard was, "Now, stop, Will! you will miss my hair." He laughed and broke out with, "You don't love me one bit." "The carter he gave her would have made an ananias turn pale, and as she threw up her head for breath, he said, "I'm strong, eh, girl?" "Yes, you are, but I love you, as you are strong as you used to be." And then he felt weak and left them.

Wade Hampton's Critical Condition.

New York, December 6.—The World's special says: Wade Hampton is worse than four years ago. He is unable to get up. His leg will be amputated to-day, when the crisis will be reached.

Something for the New Year.

The world renowned success of Hostetter's Bitters, and their continued popularity for a quarter of a century as a stomachic, is scarcely more wonderful than the welcome that greets the annual appearance of Hostetter's Almanac. This valuable medical treatise is published by Hostetter & Co., of Lowell, Mass., and is the only one of its kind in the world. It contains, in its own words, "the most reliable and accurate information on all the subjects of health, medicine, and surgery, and is the only one of its kind in the world. It contains, in its own words, 'the most reliable and accurate information on all the subjects of health, medicine, and surgery, and is the only one of its kind in the world.'"

Choice Family Groceries

Just opened at the New Store, one door east of L. S. Wilson's corner.

STRASBURGER & SPERLING

Dealers in—

Fancy Dry Goods,

CLOTHING,

Liquors,

The LOWEST

NEW STOVES!

Thos. B. Warfield's

City Meat Market

SLOAN & PROFFIT,

Wholesale & Retail

J. H. Taylor,

FANCY GOODS,

Gold Pens,

Books, Books, Books,

Candies and Nuts,

Wall Paper! Wall Paper!

Just What You Need

Choice Family Groceries

Choice Family Groceries

Just opened at the New Store, one door east of L. S. Wilson's corner.

SOCIETY CARDS.

A. F. & A. M. Roseman Lodge, No. 18. Regular communications every 1st and 3rd Saturdays of each month.

V. Ivin & Pierce,

G. W. Monroe,

W. H. Bailey,

Lumber Yard

Geo. A. Baker,

Cmission

Watches & Jewelry.

LEA. F. MARSTON

First National Bank

J. H. Taylor,

FANCY GOODS,

Gold Pens,

Books, Books, Books,

Candies and Nuts,

Wall Paper! Wall Paper!

Just What You Need

Choice Family Groceries

Just opened at the New Store, one door east of L. S. Wilson's corner.

Less Than

ONE CENT

Avant Courier

REDUCED RATES

CHEAPEST

PAPER

Only \$3.50

An Offer

One Dollar

Job Department

Low Price

Job Department