

The Avant Courier.

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 23, 1879.

How to Make Final Proof.

The following letter was sent to the Pioneer Press by an indignant Iowa granger who says he don't propose to have government officials to make fun of him with impunity. The name of the writer is suppressed for the sake of his family and his peace of mind.

UNITED STATES LAND OFFICE.

Dakota, Sept. 10, 1879.

DEAR SIR: Your favor of the 16th inst. inquiring whether it is necessary for you to come to Dakota to make final proof on your claim is at hand.

We infer you once made a flying visit to your Territory from your home in Iowa, and while here "hired" on a quarter section of government land, and now wish to know whether the unfeeling minions of the law are going to require you to come all the way up here again before they will give you the certificate of entry.

In reply I would say that this does not at all entirely upon your capacity for swearing. If you rate A, I, in that line, and never stop at trifles, you can do it with perfect lossness. Facts are of no consequence in such a case as yours. All you want is nerve. Can you hold the breath of a late Presidential candidate in swearing away his income tax and brace up!

The law requires you to have certain improvements on your claim, and it is a good thing to have plenty of them—particularly on paper.

Put the improvements at a good figure. Don't disgust everybody in the office with a 12x16 shanty and ten acres of breaking, such as the mudsills from Scandinavia and the big-trotters from Ireland tumble to. Show them what a Western man can do in that line when he really sets about it.

What do you want to 120 acres of breaking. House built of brick, say 40x30, three stories high, with verandas on three sides; cost, say \$10,000. Barn 30x20, stone basement, cost \$6,000. Total cost of improvement, \$20,000. This is merely a limit. Of course you will improve upon it. Now something of one kind or another, daily required by your own affidavit and the two good Iowa witnesses of equal veracity with yourself would make those sleepy clerks in the government land office at Washington open their eyes and your case would go through like a Yazoo jury trial—yielding in thirty minutes.

These affidavits are to be taken before a clerk of some court in this Territory that is, theoretically they do. Practically there is no trouble on that score. There are several of them who have been in the habit of taking the affidavits of non-parties in distant States for "tree claims" so long that they would be embarrassed to swear a man actually before him in the flesh. Send your papers to one of these fellows with \$10 and you will be all right on that point.

Inasmuch as the government gets the full price of the land and was never known to prosecute a defrauder for any "irregularities" of this kind (merely a word, a word, you would probably have no trouble from "Uncle Samuel").

As for any qualms of conscience which some timid people might have under similar circumstances, I presume you would laugh at the idea, but if some of the old superstitions should creep into your mind and you were inclined to be a little squeamish, you have only to reflect that Beecher has abolished hell and that there is nothing whatever to prevent your following the natural bent of your own innate conscience.

Sympathizingly yours,

REGISTER.

Mining in Leadville.

Mr. Ernest Ingersoll, who has been investigating the "Big Blow" in Leadville in the interest of Downes, contributes the result of his labors to the October number of that magazine. Among the numerous anecdotes which he records is the following (the mine referred to in the first being the Dead Man Claim):

It was winter. Scotty had died, and the boys, wanting to have a right smart of a burial, hired a man for twenty dollars to dig a grave through ten feet of snow and six feet of hard ground. Meanwhile Scotty was hauled into a snow bank. Nothing was heard of the grave-digger for three days, and the boys, going out to see what had happened to him, found him in a hole which, begun as a grave, proved to be a sixty-ounce mine. The quest section refused to yield, and was not hard pushed, for Scotty was forgotten and staid in the snow-bank till the April sun searched him out, the boys meanwhile sinking prospect holes in his intended cemetery.

One mine had been dug down one hundred and thirty-five feet and the indications of success were good. Some capitalists proposed to purchase an interest in it, and half of the mine was offered them for ten thousand dollars, if taken before five o'clock. At half-past four, rich silver ore was struck, and when at half-past five the hardy men of money came leisurely up and signified their consent to the bargain, the manager pointed at the clock, and quietly remarked:

"The price of a half interest in this mine now, gentlemen, is sixty thousand dollars."

ODDS AND ENDS.

Mr. O. Hill is the name of a Deacon in a Chicago church.

Why was Goliath very much surprised when David slung the stone at him? Because such a thing never entered his head before.

Nearly everybody predicts that the coming winter will be a hard one for Satan. The public health is improving.

Mr. Talnage says it is easier to serve God when the wind blows from the southwest than from the northeast; that Christians often attribute to their own depravity what is due to the weather, and that the devil never blows on the west wind.

It must have been!

The United States is to-day the most prosperous country in the world. Bourgeois crops, rich mines of gold and silver, productive mines of coal, iron, lead and copper, a brisk demand for our manufactures, are making themselves tell, and the country is filling up with money drawn from the old world in payment for our products. Already the tramp evil which has so long afflicted the country is abating in the East, which of itself is a sign of the improvement in the times.

Old Mr. Doubleskull had been poring over a map for several minutes, the troubled look on his face showing that he was wrestling with a problem that had got the better of his wits. Finally, looking up, the cloud of overspreading his features, he said, "I understand now how these lines come here"—pointing to the parallels of longitude and latitude up and down and across the Atlantic Ocean—"for I remember being told that Britannia rules the waves, beats me, and that she goes on shore, to beat me."—Boston Transcript.

The public are cautioned against receiving any \$5 notes of the National State Bank of Troy, as a dangerous counterfeit is in existence. The bills that are ordinarily used by counterfeiters, the backs of the bills is of light green, and its general appearance is very deceptive. The engraving of the words, "National State Bank of Troy," is very inferior. The bills are supposed to be transfers from the old plates of the Albany, Hartford, Pawling and Tamaqua. The counterfeiters are dated May 10, charter No. 991.

CIVIL SERVICE.

A Matter that Requires a Little Investigation.

The Cincinnati Commercial (Rep.) reproduces the following suggestive advertisement from a single issue of a Washington newspaper:

A SITUATION as a watchman or messenger in any of the departments; \$15 per month will be given as long as retained in office. Address J. J. G., 306 Fourth st., N. W.

A SITUATION as watchman or messenger in one of the departments; \$10 per month will be paid as long as the place may be retained. Direct to B. Williams, city post office.

WILL pay 25 cent. of my salary to any one getting me a situation of any kind in one of the departments. Address W. Alexander, city post office.

\$150 OFFERED. I will give to any party procuring me a position in any of the government departments in Washington, the sum of \$150 cash. Address O'Brien, city post office.

I WILL let anyone draw my first month's pay, could they secure me an appointment in any of the departments as a common laborer.

I WILL willingly give my first month's pay to any one securing my appointment in the railway mail service. Application indorsed by the President and office daily before the address Messrs. W. J. Fox, city post office.

EMPLOYMENT in any of the departments or government printing office, or copying to do, by a lady. Will pay 40 per cent. as long as employed. Please address Miss L. D. Harrison, P. O.

What an Old Man has Noticed.

I have noticed that all men are honest when they are watched.

I have noticed that purses will hold pennies as well as pounds.

I have noticed that, in order to be a reasonable creature, it is necessary at times to be downright mad.

I have noticed that silks, brocade, and jewels are often bought with other people's money.

I have noticed that the prayer of the selfish man is, "forgive us our debts," while he makes everybody that owes him pay to the utmost farthing.

I have noticed that he who thinks every man a rogue is certain to see his own hair shaves himself, and he ought, in mercy to his neighbor, to surrender the razor to justice.

I have noticed that money is the fool's wisdom, the knave's reputation, the poor man's desire, the virtuous man's ambition, and the idol of them all.

Home Possessions.

A boy who is polite to his father and mother is likely to be polite to every one else.

A boy lacking politeness to his parents may have the semblance of courtesy in society, but is never truly polite in spirit, and is in danger, as he becomes familiar, of betraying his real want of courtesy.

We are in danger of being too much for the outside world, for the impressions we make in society, coveting the good opinion of those who are in a sense a part of ourselves, and who will continue to sustain and be interested in us, notwithstanding these defects of deportment and character.

I say to every boy and to every girl, cultivate the art of courtesy and propriety at home—in the sitting-room and the kitchen, as well as in the parlor; and you will be sure in other places to deport yourself in a becoming and attractive manner.

When one has a pleasant smile and a cheerful countenance, it is a satisfaction to know that these are not put on, but that they belong to the character, and are manifest at all times and under all circumstances.

FRANK HARPER.

Just What You Need

Choice Family Groceries

GENERAL BLACKSMITHING

IRON AND STEEL

Empire Mill

1000 Sacks of Flour Per Week!

White Rose

Notice of Final Proof

What You Want!

Farming Implements!

J. O. GUY & SONS

Coulson Hotel

The Ferry to Fort Custer

Home Restaurant

Mr. & Mrs. Body

Terry's Landing

Young's Point

Meals at All Times!

Grain and Hay Always Kept on Hand

Good Corn and Bran for Stock

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BUTTE CARDS.

M. MARCHESAU & VALITON

TRISBERGER & BOARDMAN

MAMMOTH HOT SPRINGS

Blum's Bazaar

M. ROY

Girton House

JOHN STEINMETZ

R. G. Emerson

MAMMOTH PAINT SHOP

Scott House

THE AVANT COURIER ANNUAL FOR 1879

FRUIT AND ORNAMENTAL TREES

NEW RAIL ROUTE

Union Pacific Railroads

PULLMAN PALACE CARS

STAGE TIME REDUCED TO 48 HOURS

NOTICES OF THE PRESS

THIS PAPER IS ON FILE AT THE FOLLOWING PLACES

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Pasturage for Horses.

The best pasture in Gallatin valley is situated about three miles below Bozeman, on the north side of Bridger creek.

HORSES BOUGHT, SOLD AND EXCHANGED.

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SOCIETY CARDS.

A. P. & A. M. Bozeman Lodge, No. 18.

Western Star Lodge, No. 4.

PROFESSIONAL CARDS.

Monroe & Chambliss, PHYSICIANS AND SURGEONS.

Francis Seiderhoff, M. D., Physician and Surgeon.

J. J. DAVIS, ATTORNEY-AT-LAW.

1868. Established 1868.

Cosmopolitan Hotel

HELENA, Montana

GENERAL BANKING BUSINESS

Charges Reasonable.

PIONEER YEAST POWDER

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Office. Name. Residence.

GALLATIN COUNTY OFFICERS

Register, James Wilson

Register, Jas. H. Moore

Register, Th. M. Muller

H. F. GALEN'S

Stage and Express LINE!

BOZEMAN AND HELENA COACHES

BOZEMAN AND VIRGINIA COACHES

PASSENGERS AND EXPRESS

BEATY ORCAN

BEATY ORCAN