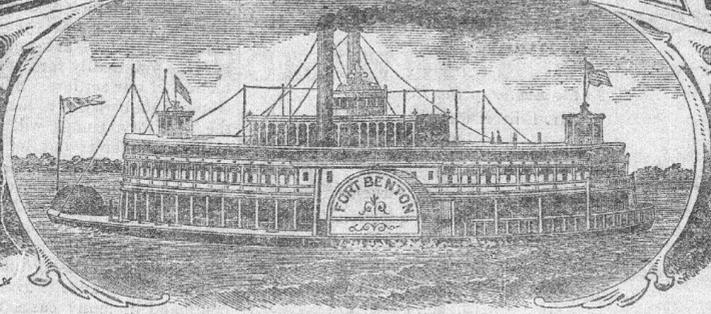


# FORT BENTON RECORD



Vol. 1.

FORT BENTON, M. T., SATURDAY, JULY 24, 1875.

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## THE BENTON RECORD,

Fort Benton, M. T.,

PUBLISHED EVERY SATURDAY.

W. H. BUCK, - - - Editor & Proprietor.

### RATES OF SUBSCRIPTION.

(IN ADVANCE.)  
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SPACE	1 w.	2 w.	3 w.	4 w.	13 w.	23 w.	52 w.
1 inch.	\$2 50	\$4 00	\$5 00	\$6 00	\$10 00	\$16 00	\$24 00
2 "	4 50	6 00	7 50	9 00	14 00	20 00	30 00
3 "	6 00	7 50	9 00	10 50	16 00	24 00	40 00
4 "	7 00	8 50	10 00	11 50	18 00	26 00	48 00
5 "	8 00	10 00	11 50	13 00	20 00	30 00	54 00
6 "	9 00	11 00	12 50	14 00	22 00	32 00	60 00
7 "	10 00	12 00	13 50	15 00	24 00	34 00	66 00
8 "	11 00	13 00	14 50	16 00	26 00	36 00	72 00
column	20 00	30 00	36 00	42 00	80 00	120 00	200 00

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 Legal advertisements, of not more than 10 lines solid nonpareil, \$1.50 for first insertion, and 75 cents for each additional insertion.

## A WORD TO HON. MARTIN MAGINNIS

At the last Territorial election for Delegate, the citizens of Choteau County gave to Hon. Martin Maginnis not only their unanimous vote, but other evidences of their appreciation of his ability and past services. We believe that it was one of our representatives in the convention at which he was nominated who first proposed his name. We do not know whether Mr. Maginnis desires a re-election or not, but we do know that he has most shamefully betrayed the confidence of the people of this county. Last winter and spring, when the representatives of every Congressional District throughout the States was asking for donations, when the most liberal and general system of appropriations for improvements was made by Congress, Hon. Martin Maginnis, with an active indifference, never opened his mouth or made one effort for the improvement of this great water route to the business centres of Montana.

What is our crime? Are the business men and petitioners afraid of us—do they regard us as a rival commercial town—that for two years past the Helena press has advocated the interests of the Carroll route, under the specious plea that it was Montana's enterprise, that Montana would furnish the teams, and that Montana merchants would furnish the supplies. True, one firm in Helena would have a monopoly of the Carroll route trade, but why Fort Benton and Choteau County should not be regarded as a part of Montana, it is hard to understand, and it is still more difficult to comprehend upon what grounds Mr. Maginnis can excuse

his apparent indifference to the interests of the people of this section. Will the gentleman have the kindness to inform us whether he is ignorant of his duties towards his Choteau County constituents or controlled by an interest that makes him an enemy of Benton? Please speak out, sir, if you want the five hundred votes this county will furnish in 1876.

## PROGRESS OF THE EXTRADITION TRIAL.

The extradition trial is still slowly dragging along. Among the witnesses examined during the week, were T. Hale, S. Harper, and T. W. Hardwick—three of the accused. The evidence of Hale and Hardwick was a general account of the loss of their horses, and the attempt to recover them with the assistance of the military; how they trailed the horses to Milk river; the conversation that occurred there concerning the Indians and their conduct at the fort; how they followed Farwell to assist in recovering his horse; how the Indians fired on them, and their return of the fire which caused the battle; and their return to Benton.

The evidence of Harper was in contradiction to that of Farwell's interpreter, Alexis. He testified that he was on Farwell's side of the creek during the night; that Alexis was drunk when the fight began, and that he never saw him out of the fort until the fight was over. Alexis, it will be remembered, gave a detailed description of everything connected with the battle, and it was a matter of wonder to those who read the account how he could recollect for a period of two years the many trivial points to which he testified with such apparent accuracy.

The case for the defense closed. Several witnesses for the prosecution were examined, in rebuttal and to establish the reputation of the "model witness," which was so terribly racked by the evidence produced by the defense. The rebuttal witnesses declared that they knew nothing concerning Farwell's reputation. One witness stated that he knew nothing against Farwell's character, from which we have a right to infer that he knew nothing in favor of it.

The case is now being argued by counsel, and will probably close in a few days.

## PROXIMITY OF THE SIOUX.

Our latest advices from the lower country confirm the many rumors current here for the past two weeks of the near approach of hostile Indians. The Sioux have set fire to the prairie between Benton and Fort Clagett, making it almost impossible for experienced guides to find their way through. The Nez Perces report that over eleven hundred lodges of Sioux are camped on the Little Rockies, distant about forty five miles from the Bear Paw Mountains. A few days since a party of three hundred Crows and Nez Perces started on a raid against the Sioux. They were driven back by a larger force of their enemies to within eleven miles of Clagett. They say that the prairie was literally covered with Sioux,

## THE PEOPLE'S TICKET.

We publish in another column the proceedings of a convention held by the citizens of Choteau County for the purpose of nominating candidates for the several important offices that will become vacant on the first day of December next. The proceedings of the meeting were conducted harmoniously throughout, and the discussions were unmarked by the slightest political discord. The ticket finally decided upon is the strongest that could possibly have been selected, and it will undoubtedly receive the hearty sanction and earnest support of every respectable voter in the County.

W. A. Thompson received a majority of all the votes cast and was declared the People's candidate for County Commissioner. Mr. Thompson is one of the most popular residents of this community, and his election can hardly be a matter of doubt.

The nomination for Probate Judge was made without a dissenting voice. Mr. John W. Tattan, a gentleman of irreproachable character and promising legal ability, was chosen for this responsible office, and will undoubtedly fill the position to the entire satisfaction of his constituents and the public generally.

Mr. Wm. Rowe, of the firm of Rowe Bros., proprietors of the Overland Hotel, and among the most respected and wealthy citizens of Benton, received the nomination of Sheriff. Mr. Rowe now holds this important office by ap-

pointment, and the faithful manner in which he is discharging his often unpleasant duties, is sufficient guarantee that he will be the right man in the right place.

John Hunsberger, Choteau Co.'s faithful, honest Treasurer, was of course re-nominated, and it is hardly necessary to say that no better man could have been found for the position, for we believe there is not a respectable citizen in the county who would not be ashamed to vote against him.

The nomination of Col. Donnelly for County Clerk was also unanimous. The Col. is not an old time resident of Benton, but has lived long enough among us to win the confidence and esteem of every well disposed person in town. His ability to fill this important yet thankless office, with credit to himself and the county, can not be questioned, as he is a gentleman of fine natural talents, is a classical scholar, and of unimpeachable integrity.

In fact, all of the candidates are among the best that this County could produce, and we predict that their election will prove one of the most fortunate events in the history of Benton.

The following paragraph appears in a letter to the Helena "Independent," from Fort McLeod:

"Benton will lose the fur trade of this country, as all traders with one or two exceptions, propose to ship their robes either through to Canada or to send them across the plains to Winnipeg. This is on account of the high tariff on robes shipped to Benton from this Territory. Two traders, Macdougall and Livingstone, lost largely on their robes disposed of at Benton, and state that had they sent them to Manitoba they would have realized more on their trade than they received at Benton."

The tariff on robes shipped from the Northwest Territories by way of Benton is 20 per cent ad valorem, or a valuation equal to three dollars on each robe. That it is a high tariff there can be no doubt, but yet it is not higher than at any other point in this Territory. In Canada it is 20 per cent on invoices; that is, on the true cost, which would be a valuation on each robe of from five to six dollars. At Winnipeg the tariff is the same as it is here—20 per cent ad valorem. Now, why was it that the two traders mentioned by the Fort McLeod correspondent lost on the robes

which they disposed of in Benton? The robes which they brought to this market were of an inferior grade, they were the cullings of the stock which they had shipped to Canada. These robes they shipped to this market because, as they themselves admitted, they would not be received by the Hudson Bay Company. If instead of getting the best of a bad bargain, they received the true value nothing more should have been heard of it.

McDougall brought 309 robes to this market, for which one of our prominent eastern buyers, Mr. Goewey, would not bid one dollar a robe. Yet these robes, scantily furred, T. C. Power purchased at \$6.08 per robe, and afterwards received a bid of \$4.00 each for the pick of fifty robes. Livingstone had five hundred and fourteen robes of the same quality, for which he received \$2,366 from Mr. Goewey.

Several new arrests have been made in British America, by the N. W. Mounted Police, of parties supposed to have been implicated in the Cypress Mountains affair. Messrs. Hughs, Vogel, and Carr, are the new victims of extradition, and it is reported that the Police are looking for others. Our Government will have a nice bill of lawyers fees to pay by the time the Canadians get through with this nonsense. Perhaps, however, the Prisoners may be allowed to enter their own recognizance to appear when called upon.

Articles have appeared in the June and July numbers of the Popular Science Monthly, on Savagism and Civilization, by Hubert Bancroft. They are well worthy of perusal and throw much light on the causes which have led to civilization.

Since the removal of the 2d Cavalry from the Teton, settlers are liable at any moment to receive a visit from the Sioux. Government will furnish more troops than are necessary to suppress the whiskey trade, but settlers must defend their own lives and property against the savage, and run the risk of being hung for it afterwards.

A treaty has been perfected between the North Assinaboias, Crees, Half-Breeds, and Piegiars.