

THE RIVER PRESS

Wednesday, January 4, 1882.

JERRY COLLINS, - - - - - EDITOR

EIGHTY SIX National banks were organized during the past year.

PRESIDENT ARTHUR is guarded to some extent by skilled detectives.

DR. BLISS, Agnew and Hamilton want \$25,000 each for their services in treating the late President.

ROBERT McWADE, the actor who paid a visit to Montana last summer, is reported missing by the Philadelphia Times.

THE Inter-Mountain nominates Capt. Jas. H. Mills as the next Republican candidate for Delegate to Congress. Next.

It is stated that Henry Villard intends sending a ship to China to bring back a cargo of Chinese to work on the Northern Pacific and its various branches. He does not find laborers as plenty as he would wish.

ONE of the rumors of the Guiteau farce is to the effect that eleven of the "twelve men good and true" believe the assassin sane and a fit subject for the gallows, while the remaining juror thinks he (Guiteau) is as crazy as a bed-bug and should be relegated in an asylum.

DELEGATE MAGINNIS has introduced a number of bills in the House, among which is a bill to restore the Fort Benton military reservation to the public domain, and others looking to the reduction of the Blood, Piegan and Blackfoot Indian reservations in this Territory. We hope Delegate Maginnis will succeed in getting these measures through.

THE total area of Montana, in round numbers, is 146,000 square miles, being larger than any of the States or other organized Territories, except California, which has 153,360; Texas, 275,780, and Dakota, 149,100 square miles. The States and organized Territories number forty-eight, and yet Montana contains one-twentieth of the total area. Its river surface equals about one thirty-fifth, and its lake surface one sixty-sixth of the whole. Montana is larger than Connecticut, Delaware, Maryland, Massachusetts, New Jersey, New Hampshire, Rhode Island, Vermont, Ohio and New York, combined; and yet we have no vote in the councils of the nation. Within another decade, however, we shall have two Senators and four Representatives in Congress.—Courier.

SENATOR COCKRILL, of Missouri, has introduced a bill in the Senate which contemplates the uniting of the waters of the Missouri and Columbia rivers, if practicable. The bill authorizes the Secretary of War to cause a preliminary survey to be made of one or more of the passes between one or more of the affluents of the Upper Columbia and the head waters of the Missouri with the view of ascertaining the distance between the navigable waters of said streams and the character, elevation, water supply and facilities of the intervening country and the practicability of uniting the two rivers by a canal or stack water navigation, the probable cost, reasonable benefits to result therefrom, and to report the result to Congress. The bill calls for an appropriation of \$20,000 to meet the expenses of the survey. This is a gigantic scheme and well worth the cost of testing its practicability.

MAJOR WALKER, of Helena, is a candidate for Governor of Montana, and is very confident of securing the prize. The Major would make, we think, an excellent Governor, and we would be pleased to hear of his appointment. But he is not likely to get there. In the first place he is a resident of the Territory, and it is about as difficult for a Montana man to secure a Montana appointment as it is for a consul to get through the eye of a needle. In the second place his chief reliance, Senator Mahone, is not likely to have much influence in the matter of appointments outside of Virginia. Unless Major Walker has better backing at Washington than the Little Republicator, his prospects are indeed very slim. The chances are about ten to one that some ward politician of New York City will be sent out here to succeed Governor Potts.

RIDDLEBERGER has been elected Senator from Virginia. Only a short time ago the same Riddleberger was seeking the position of Sergeant-at-arms of the Senate, and for several weeks a deadlock was maintained to prevent his election. The Democratic Senators thought him unworthy to fill that place, usually given to party workers who have more brass and egotism than anything else. Riddleberger might have made an average doorkeeper, but the dignity of the august Senate is lowered considerably by his admission as a full-fledged member of that body. When the administration and party workers threw their influence in favor of repudiation in order to secure the success of Mahone's tools, including Riddleberger, they did something they will yet be ashamed of. If Mahone and Riddleberger are the wedges with which is proposed to split the solid South, all we have to say is that the instruments are not well selected, and they will not do the work.

HOW TO GET HERE.

We have been shown a letter received by a gentleman in this city, recently, in which it is stated that seventeen families from one neighborhood in Missouri are coming to Benton in the spring. Among numerous questions in reference to the country, it was asked "What is the best route to Benton?"

We have been requested to reply, and can do so for the benefit of these parties, and all others who may be interested, in very few words.

Parties coming to Benton or Northern Montana early in the season—from April until the first of September—will find it to their interest to take the river route. The expenses of the trip are scarcely one-half as great as by rail. Last season the fare from Bismarck to Benton, first-class, was \$40, and second class \$25. It will probably be the same the ensuing year. Add to this the railroad fare from your own locality to Bismarck, and you have the entire cost of the trip. By railroad and stage, via the Union Pacific and Utah & Northern, it would require very close figuring to get the bill of traveling expenses below \$175. In addition to the fact that the river route is the cheaper, it can also be said that it is by far the most pleasant. It will require a little more time to make the journey, but the fatigue and annoyance of travel by railroad and stage is avoided. The trip from Bismarck to Benton is usually made in from ten to twelve days. Again, freight rates by the river are not as high by one-third. If household or other goods are brought along they can be laid down at the levee here from any town in the West at the rate of two dollars per hundred pounds—an item of considerable interest to families who contemplate moving to Montana.

In this connection it is in order to say something of the opportunities that are here offered to immigration. The country surrounding Benton presents every possible advantage for either stock raising, farming or mining. The cattle and sheep interests of this county already represent more than a million dollars, and there is plenty of room and excellent opportunities for others to engage in the business. Cattle feed upon the ranges winter and summer alike, and never receive the least care from their owners at any season of the year, and our grass fed steers bring as high prices in the Chicago market as the average corn fed cattle of the Western States. Sheep husbandry has proven a great success in this and adjoining counties, too climate, grass and other natural advantages being just such as are adapted for successful wool growing. The agricultural resources of the country tributary to Benton are almost without limit. Thousands of acres of the most desirable farming lands lie unoccupied, and can be taken up under the homestead or pre-emption act. These valleys are not excelled in the United States in productiveness. The average yield of wheat in this county is thirty-five bushels, and of oats forty-five bushels. Potatoes and all kinds of vegetables grow as they do nowhere else. This land, favorably located, can be had on the liberal terms offered by the government, and in a very few years from this time every acre of it will be valuable.

To the "seventeen families" who contemplate coming to Montana, and to all others who desire to leave the crowded States and grow up with a new country, we would say that the country tributary to Benton offers better opportunities than can be found elsewhere in the West.

THE COLOR LINE.

Much ado has been made during the past few days about the alleged action of the School Board in admitting colored children to the public school, and the dying embers of color prejudice have been fanned into a flame by an editorial which recently appeared in the Record. On the assumption that such has been the action in the premises, the editor proceeds to argue that it is a grand mistake, and even has the assurance to call on the Board to right the grievous wrong (?) that has been done.

Neither the facts set forth, nor the theory based upon them, will stand the test. As we understand it, there are but four negro children in the town of school age, and only two of these are applicants for school privileges, the children of Mrs. Ellen Sowers. These children are fully seven-eighths white, and in admitting them it cannot be charged that the Board has drawn the color line very distinctly. Further than this the Record and the over sensitive few that are "kicking" have no grounds for complaint. The children have five times more Caucasian blood in their veins than African, and we fail to see why they should be excluded from school privileges.

The time has certainly come when the old prejudice on account of color should be rooted out. In nearly all the States colored children are admitted to the schools with whites, when there are not a sufficient number of the former to organize a separate school, and it is right. The war of the rebellion and the amendments to the Constitution have done away with distinction of color—and white and black enjoy equal privileges before the law. The old prejudice against the colored race is fast dying out elsewhere in the Union and we hope that Montana will not long foster it. Instead of deserving censure for their actions in the matter referred to, the Board is to be commended for giving the children mentioned a chance to receive instructions.

MONTANA.

Montana is by far the richest of all the Territories.—American Agriculturist.

No more inviting field is probably presented anywhere in the wide world for the profitable investment of capital than in Montana.—Mining and Scientific Press.

A land of amazing wonders. Montana has nothing so wonderful as the profusion of her mines.—Chicago Journal.

In no region of equal extent are more elements combined needful to the growth of a prosperous and permanent commonwealth than in Montana.—Chicago Tribune.

The completion of the railroad to the borders of the Yellowstone Park, lying amid the most fascinating and stupendous scenery in the world, and in a climate the most favored, will attract thousands of visitors from every part of the globe.—New York Herald.

Of all the northwestern Territories, Montana is the one which, by the variety of its resources and capabilities, the advantages of its topography, the beauties of its scenery, and the hospitality of its climate, holds out the highest inducement to rapid settlement.—Chicago Times.

Taking Montana all in all it stands without an equal in mineral and agricultural resources. It has no superior. New and rich mines are developed daily, and thousands of acres of rich land are taken up and cultivated yearly by an industrious and good class of people. Many have erroneous notions in relation to the educational advantages, religious privileges and society of Montana. Enterprise and industry are encouraged. Thousands of dollars are appropriated yearly for improvements.—Charles A. Lewis, Cass Co., Mich.

The Montana District.

To the RIVER PRESS.

In my article in your Holiday number, on the above district, my attention has been called to several things which it is necessary should be explained to prevent erroneous impressions:

The names of the discoverers of the camp are Messrs. Neihart, O'Brien and Harley, and not Nubert, O'Brien and Harley, this being a typographical error. Mr. John Nubert has no mine, claim or location in this district.

In mentioning the "Ed. Mann" and Mountain Chief I inadvertently placed them as extensions of the "Hercules." I fully intended to say that it was a disputed point, as the owners of the above lodes claim them as extensions of the "Homestake." In mentioning the names of firms, I only mentioned the name of one party, to abbreviate the article, and thus, unavoidably, missed mentioning parties who may think they ought to have been there. Again, other parties are now interested in the discoveries,—thus, Mr. W. S. Stockings, of Fort Benton, owns one half of all my locations in the district, being four in number, and in a similar manner other parties who are interested have been omitted.

O. C. MORISON.

PERSONAL.

The party who, on Sunday, December 25th, took a Seal Ring from the washstand in Spaulding's Barber Shop, will save some trouble by returning it through post office or barber shop to EROY.

Stockmen's Rewards!

\$500 REWARD!

WILL BE GIVEN by the Choteau and Meagher Counties' Stock Protective Association for the apprehension and conviction of any person or persons who sell, barter or give whisky, or other intoxicating drinks, to Indians on the ranges of Stockmen who are members of this Association.

\$100 REWARD!

WILL BE GIVEN for the apprehension and conviction of the first person or persons detected selling, bartering or giving whisky, or other intoxicating drinks, to Half-breeds on the ranges of the members of this Association.

\$500 REWARD!

WILL BE GIVEN for the apprehension and conviction of any person or persons who maliciously or carelessly set out prairie fires on the ranges of members of this Association.

By order of the Executive Committee of the Choteau and Meagher Counties Stock Protective Association. M. E. MELNER, Secretary.

TO THE PUBLIC.

The undersigned, having bought the dairy business formerly belonging to Mr. John Neubert, hope by close attention to business and the superior quality of milk and cream supplied to customers, to give entire satisfaction. Having moved the dairy to Delatraz's Ranch in town, we will be able to deliver milk and cream twice a day, before 6 a. m. and 6 p. m., thereby supplying a want long felt by our citizens.

ETHER & EMBLETON, Excelsior Dairy.

REINICKE HOUSE, Sun River Leavings.

This House is situated on the Helena and Benton road, just a nice day's drive from Benton, making it the most convenient stopping place on the road. It is kept in first-class style, and has the very best of accommodations for travelers on the road.

I. G. BAKER, St. Louis, Mo.

W. G. CONRAD, FORT BENTON.

C. E. CONRAD, FORT MACLEOD.

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We are in receipt of a Larger Stock of Assorted Merchandise than any other House in Montana, and offer Special Inducements to Cash Buyers.

WILL PAY THE HIGHEST RATES FOR ROBES AND FURS

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Will Contract Freight from all Eastern Cities in Canada and the United States to all points in Montana and the Northwest.

WILL INSURE GOODS via MISSOURI RIVER.

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Wholesale and Retail Dealer in

Groceries, Wines, Liquors, Cigars, Tobacco,

Shelf Hardware, Sheep Tobacco, Wool Saks and Twines, Tents and Wagon Covers Stockmen's, Miners, Freighters' and Farmers' Supplies,

Clothing, Dry Goods, Boots, Shoes Hats, Caps and Furniture.

We keep constantly on hand large and complete lines of the above named goods, and carry all kinds of Furnishing Goods for the Farmer, Freighter and Miner. Families will do well to call and examine our goods and obtain our prices before purchasing elsewhere. We also do a General Storage and Commission business. Consignments solicited and shipped.

We Pay the Highest Market Rates for

ROBES, BEEF HIDES AND PELTRIES.

We control six of the Largest Mercantile Houses in the Territory, and our shipments are so extensive that we can give buyers far better rates on all classes of merchandise than any other firm in Montana. Especial attention is given to the Wholesale and Jobbing trade, and a brief inspection of our enormous stocks will prove this statement.

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Front Street, Fort Benton, Montana.

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Cor. Power and Franklin Streets,

FT. BENTON, MONTANA.

Horse, Mule & Ox Shoeing

A SPECIALTY.

WAGON REPAIRING.

Have employed the best wood workmen in the Territory, and can guarantee good work and entire satisfaction.

RUFUS PAYNE, Proprietor.

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Dealer in

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A full assortment of all classes of papers, novels and books of all description always on hand.

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Employs none but the very best workmen and can guarantee a sure fit every time.

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A choice assortment of the very finest Wines, Liquors, Ales and Beer always in stock. I make a specialty of

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