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It is Commissioner Wetzel now, that gentleman having received his certificate of election and taken his place on the board vice Weatherwax, resigned.

The delegate elect from New Mexico is a patriotic citizen, having, during the Indian troubles in that territory a few years ago, raised and equipped a company at his own expense to fight the red skins.

LITTLE Jack Horner sat in the corner eating concentrated lye; his mother came in—he had emptied the tin. They will meet in the sweet bye-and-bye. He lived at Wheeling, W. Va., and was 2 years old.

ANOTHER of the too few cases in the desert of the political situation is unexpectedly developed. The North Carolina republican state ticket and the republican candidate for congressman at large, Dockery, were elected.

THERE is one good thing the present fall of snow has done—it has covered up all the dirt and litter which had accumulated in front of some of the saloons and other places in town, and a certain portion of Front street does not look quite so bad as it did.

A PRETTY state of affairs seems to exist at Williams, Ariz. The business men, representing the peaceable element of the town, posted up a notice ordering all lawless characters to leave town by 3 o'clock that day. Instead of departing the rouders posted up a similar notice ordering the others, under penalty of death, to leave immediately. At the time of the stage's leaving the greatest excitement prevailed, but no ultimatum had been reached.

We have received the first number of the Missoula County Times, a new aspirant for public support, Harrison Spaulding, editor and proprietor. It starts out with a larger sheet than its old established contemporary, the Missoulian, and with a very good advertising patronage, which will doubtless grow larger fast. It is republican in politics, its initiatory number shows the marks of an able editor, and if it is kept up to the present standard, will soon take a place in the front rank of Montana journals. The RIVER PRESS wishes Bro. Spaulding every success, and hopes to welcome his paper to its sanctum for many years to come.

THE subject of Canadian independence is becoming a lively topic of discussion across the border. The Toronto World, adverting to the fact that the population of the Dominion is now drawing close to 5,000,000, and will, within the next twenty years, be equal to the population of Great Britain, declares that "henceforth Canadian independence will be one of our political questions. It will have its party, and will have its candidates, and in the near future will have its government. We need not say how its work is to be done. The path is plain to every intelligent loyal man. When we are ready we shall firmly and with dignified respect ask the Mother Country to let us go."

You thought that republican money came nearer to ruling it than anything else. Ye thought that republican repeaters—arrested in the act—came nearer ruling the ballot box than anything else.—Record.

It is well known in Benton that there was \$10 of democratic money spent where there was \$1 of republican money. The simple fact is, the republicans did not have it to spend. If there were any—republicans or demo rats—who were guilty of repeating, and were arrested in the act, why were they released without a trial? Taking the Record as authority for their guilt, we charge the democratic authorities of Choteau county with a gross neglect of duty in not taking steps to punish these alleged repeaters.

The democratic papers of the territory are charging Mr. Botkin with intended criminality in the matter of canvassing the votes for delegate. This they are doing without the shadow of proof against him, and if those who are making these charges against Mr. Botkin were one-half as honorable gentlemen as he is, they would never stoop so low as to make them. The fact is, the democratic leaders know frauds were committed in the interest of Maginnis; they

dread investigation, and in their endeavor to cover up their own misdeeds and throw the people of Montana off the tract, they are making charges as criminal as they are reckless. But it will not work. The matter may not go into the courts for the simple reason that a democratic house will seat Maginnis anyhow, but the citizens of Montana are not blind fools, and they will administer the punishment which these persons have earned, in 1884. And it will be one they will not be liable to forget.

Now that Mr. Maginnis is going back to congress for another term, and as his influence is said to be all-powerful at Washington, we desire to call his attention once more to the urgent need of a mail route from Benton to Belt creek and Sand Coulee. This county is getting pretty well settled up, and the residents thereof should have proper mail facilities. Their mail, at present, has to come to Benton and Chestnut, from twenty-five to forty-five miles away, and they have to depend on some of their number coming to town, and even then it is sometimes many days after before they can get their mail. Cannot Delegate Maginnis do something for these people, many of whom cast their votes for him at the recent election? They are as much his constituents as any others, and they are entitled to a respectful hearing and consideration.

THE Independent makes the claim that a band of 65 British half-breeds voted for Botkin at Reedsfort. As Mr. Botkin received exactly 70 votes there, this is equivalent to saying that there are only five white republicans in that precinct. If the Independent is correct, 23 British half-breeds voted for Johnson, 49 for Stuart (Sam Hauser's partner, and the man who accused them of shooting his cattle), 47 for Atchison, 47 for Cameron, 24 for McClintock, 45 for Howell, 43 for Murray, 54 for Berkins, 34 for Tipton, 36 for Wight, and 37 for Lapalme—all democrats, and most of them entire strangers—giving them a big majority in every instance, and thus, in the language of the Independent, "overturning the legitimate majorities." The fact is, the Independent man knows, probably, less about the Judith country than any other section of Montana. Reedsfort precinct is democratic, but the people in that section, who are near Fort Maginnis, do not like Broadwater, and his understood interest in the present delegate caused many of them to vote for Botkin. On the other candidates they voted according to their party sympathy. This is the whole case, and its attempt to make T. C. Power a central figure in the picture will not succeed.

A few days after election the republican organ in Benton said that the election here was a fitting lesson or rebuke to the would-be republican bosses. In a later issue, two days, we believe, that same sheet said that the election of Botkin would not be a victory for republicanism. Query: having failed in the "boss" system of attack upon the democratic candidates, does the Press think it has an easy subject of blackmail in the gentleman who assumed the leadership of the Republican party in this county?—Record.

You are entirely "off" in your first assertion, as you generally are. If you can reproduce an article from this paper which said the election here was a rebuke to anyone, we ask you to do so. As for the second sentence, at the time the article was written the returns were not all in, and we thought Botkin's undeniable legitimate majority was due more to the work of honorable democrats than to the republican strength, and did not believe the territory was republican. But we do now, and believe that on a strict and fair party vote it would so be found. At the same time we do not wish to detract one iota from the credit due those same democrats who, in the interest of their country, voted for Mr. Botkin, and helped to swell his majority.

With regard to the insinuation of attempted blackmail, it is on a par with the general conduct of the man who tries to injure the business of every one who does not advertise in his excuse for a newspaper. No gentleman that we know of has assumed, or even attempted to assume, the leadership of the republican party in Choteau county.

Query: Can anyone see any connection between the three sentences in the Record article, or any sense in the entire jumble of words?

THE Record, in a long article on the Indian reservation near by says:

It is fortunate as it is that Maginnis has been returned to Congress, for otherwise we should probably have to wait another decade to acquire this valuable section of country which has so long been given up to Indians who have no use for it. It is such narrow escapes from misfortune as the defeat of the republican party at last election that make men think that a wise Providence rules over the ballot box as well as other things, for had Col. Botkin been elected to take the place of Major Maginnis the property holders alone would have lost more by depreciation within the next ten years, than the present value of the

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whole section of country which Maginnis is expected to secure for us, not to mention the number of families who would be unable to secure the inheritances that will soon be open to them.

While we would like, as well as any others, to see the reservation thrown open, or even curtailed, we cannot see why there is any special occasion to give thanks, on that account, because Maginnis was elected. We believe that it is a small piece of business to charge that Mr. Botkin would not have interested himself in this matter as much as Major Maginnis is expected to do. What special interest Maginnis can have in Choteau county that his opponent would not have had we know not. We take the assertion that the election of Botkin would have caused a depreciation in property as a direct insult on his honor and willingness to serve the territory which had made him its representative, and so it will be considered by all right-minded men. It is passing sentence on a gentleman against whose honor no one has a word to say, and even before he is charged with any offence, or evidence brought against him. As regards the belief that Providence ruled over the ballot box in Montana, we never heard Broadwater and Wilder called by that name before. Here in Benton we thought, on election day, that whisky and democratic bull-dozers came nearer ruling it than anything else. Can any man in Benton honestly believe that the defeat of Messrs. Rowe, Hill, Clingan, Browne, or of Messrs. Sullivan and McIntire, was a narrow escape from any great misfortune? Two years from now the republican party in this county will elect some, if not all, of the county officers, and Mr. Botkin will probably be our representative to Congress. The falsity of the Record's argument will then be proven, and Montana and Choteau county, relieved from the weight of monopoly rule, will march onward to wealth and prosperity such as they have never yet known.

We understand that the attempt to palm off election returns from Carroll as bona fide has become the subject of judicial investigation, and that the participants will find to their sorrow that British subjects cannot be used to antagonize the voice of the people of this county in the choice for delegate to congress.—Record.

No; but United States troops could in Custer. We are willing to bet and give you the odds—twenty-five cents in nickels against your street car—that this is the last we will hear about the "judicial investigation," unless the republicans bring it up.

We are getting tired of the bluff and bluster of the Herald and its spawn, the Press, about purity of election, &c. There never was such corruption of the ballot box known in Choteau county as showed itself through Republican sources this election. And we have got the proof, and don't you forget it.—Record.

Passing over the characteristic language of the first part of this, we have only to say, if you have got so much proof in your possession, why content yourself with vague charges? "We are getting tired of your bluff and bluster" about corruption of the ballot box in Choteau county, and if you have got so much proof, why, "turn it on." And don't forget to bring in Mose Solomon's bill, and what it was for, along with the rest.

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