

THE RIVER PRESS.

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Fort Benton, Montana, Wednesday, September 16, 1885.

No. 46.

Proceedings of the Board of County Commissioners.

The board met on Monday, the 7th inst., with all the members present.

The following bills were allowed:

James Williams	\$ 95 00
Joe B. Lockhart	52 20
First National Bank	20 00
Peter Smith	17 00
L. H. Rosecrans	11 00
James McDevitt	228 30
George E. Huyt	5 65
Will Hanks	10 00
C. Stoner	16 40
H. F. Forbes	44 00
C. B. Carlwright	56 50
River Press	254 50
I. G. Baker & Co.	43 00
T. C. Power & Bro.	128 40
M. E. Johnson	106 75
Charles L. Snider	100 00
Charles O. Kendall	377 50
J. M. Kay	2 00
M. Connolly	3 10
Z. E. Rogers	12 30
Murphy, Marlay & Co.	38 80
Denis Halpin	100 00
J. D. Wolf	13 80
J. C. Bourassa	22 25
M. F. Marsh	20 00
Nat. Collins	45 00
Joe Allen	24 00
Geo. Senieur	72 08
H. P. Rolfe	6 00
M. A. Flanagan	35 45
H. L. Powers	6 00
J. G. Samies	18 00
E. W. Cummins	25 00

The claim of Henry A. Fry for \$244.90, constable's fees, was laid over. The clerk was directed to write to him in reference to the illegality of certain items and request him to file a new bill according to law.

The report of the viewers of the upper Teton road was accepted.

A petition from residents of Great Falls for a road to the Choteau county line was granted, and R. Vaughn, J. Goon and David Wilson appointed viewers, to serve without pay.

The report of the viewers of the Great Falls road to Red coulee was accepted.

The report of the sheriff showing the property in the jail was accepted.

The clerk was directed to request the sheriff to invoice all property in the court house under his control and report.

The meeting then adjourned until 9 a. m., 8th inst.

SECOND DAY.

Board met at 9:30 a. m.; all present.

The following bills were allowed:

Ira Myers	\$45 00
Joe Braithwaite	25 50
David Davies	42 50
Allen C. Nixon	66 25
H. J. Wackerlin & Co.	24 62
Isaac Mee	15 00
Patrick Murphy	12 00
Hamilton & Hazlett	30 68
Geo. Wren	58 75
John Wren	18 00
O. A. Parsons	15 00
I. G. Baker & Co.	44 80
D. O. Blevins	52 57
Chas. L. Spencer	38 00
Jas. McDevitt	3 55
Mesa Solomon	50 57
T. Wilcox	55 30
J. W. Gahan	55 90

The report of the probate judge was received and accepted and ordered filed.

After reading several letters from the clerks of other counties, the board ordered that the assessment of sheep be placed at the rate of \$2.25 per head.

The report of J. W. Tattan, justice of the peace, was read and approved, and it was ordered that the witnesses and jurors as reported be paid.

The report of the county treasurer was received, the money in his hands counted, found correct, and the report adopted.

It was ordered that Judge Wade be requested to permit the October, 1885, term of criminal court to lapse, and that the county clerk be instructed to forward a copy of this preamble and order for his approval.

The petition of the residents of the lower Teton and Marias asking for a school district with the indorsement of the county superintendent was granted, and the superintendent of schools was directed to organize said district with the boundaries as furnished.

THIRD DAY.

The following bills were allowed:

Joe T. Athey	\$ 3 50
Chas. Rowe	5 50
Joe W. Tattan	4 60
Frank Lepper	13 25
Morrow & Miller	4 25

The sheriff's bills disallowed during the August meeting were reconsidered and ordered paid.

The appointment of Willis F. Parker to be deputy district attorney for Choteau county was approved, he to file a bond in the sum of \$1,000.

The clerk was ordered to notify the supervisor of road district No. 6 to do no more work until ordered by the board.

The question of the condition of the poor farm was considered and a communication forwarded to the commissioner of the general land office at Washington on the subject.

The county superintendent of schools was requested to transmit to the board at the next meeting a report of all school districts and to define the boundaries explicitly.

The clerk was instructed to notify D. O. Blevins and Raphael Morgan that after October 1st, 1885, the county will not make any allowance for the board of George Weipert.

The matter of the claim of Julian F.

Bird for rebate of special school tax was taken up, and the clerk directed to write him on the subject.

The board ordered that a warrant be drawn for the claim of the assessor for \$500.

Advertisements for sealed proposals for a ditch at Sun river and for the Teton road were ordered published in the RIVER PRESS.

The sheriff was ordered to destroy the following property: Five quilts and three buffalo robes.

The board audited and ordered their bills as commissioners paid, as follows: W. S. Wetzel, \$32; R. S. Ford, \$51.20; J. M. Arnoux, \$39.20.

Adjourned to meet September 21, 1885.

Gold on the Missouri.

The finding of gold colors on the bar below town has revived some of the talk of ten years ago relative to the possibilities of large gold deposits at the great falls. Gold was taken out of French Bar, on the Missouri, in 1868-9 in large quantities, and the claims have been worked every year since. On a bar in the Missouri river near Chestnut, parties were working last year and making good wages. Many old miners reason, and justly, too, that all of the great discoveries of gold in Montana have been made on tributaries of the Missouri, and they seem to think that a large quantity of float gold must have been carried down and deposited below the falls. The fact that good colors are found anywhere in this section would indicate that their deductions were correct. In 1876, we believe, one of our residents wrote a long article to the Record giving information that a party of New York capitalists had engaged in a gigantic scheme to turn the channel of the Missouri above the falls for the purpose of mining at some point below for the fabulous sums which were supposed to be deposited there. The information came like a thunder clap upon our people, and for several hours excitement ran high. Land below the point claimed by the company was secured by other parties, and a general stampede would have taken place to the falls had not some individual discovered that the date of the paper containing the account was April 1st, and then the hoax of one of our fun-loving residents was discovered. However, the theories advanced were good, and were it possible to change the current of the Missouri river, an immense amount of gold would probably be found.

We heard a gentleman say a day or two ago that he has had it in his mind for years to go to the falls and prospect on the island just below to see if the theories of gold deposits could be verified, and it need occasion no surprise if several people went there this fall.

Our Graded School.

Our school is now working in good order. The testimony of parents and children is to the effect that Prof. Downing is one of the best principals we have ever had. We are glad to hear this and hope that the school will attain such excellence that people living in the outside districts may be induced to send their children to Fort Benton. We believe it is the aim of the trustees to have the school second to none in the territory, and they have secured, in addition to Prof. Downing, Miss Flanagan and Miss McQuillan, two most competent teachers. In case the attendance should be materially increased other teachers will be secured.

The Sweet Grass Hills.

The first news we have had from the Sweet Grass hills for the past two weeks was received to-day from Tuck Lambert and C. D. Ladd, who have just arrived in the city from an extended prospecting trip in the Rocky mountains, coming back by way of the Sweet Grass. They report that there are undoubtedly good diggings in the hills. Fred Derwent and "Deaf George" are working on their claim. A short time since they opened up a small pit and took out three ounces. They are now at work stripping a pit about 12x20 feet, from which they expect to take out fifty ounces of gold. Mr. Ladd says he took a pan of dirt from a claim supposed to have been worked out and obtained six grains of gold. On Deaf George's claim eleven grains to the pan has been obtained. They were informed while there that dirt could be hauled some distance and yield from one to three ounces per day. They regard the mines as first class, and are of opinion that the camp will prove rich before many days. The Sweet Grass hills are so easy of access that hundreds of people will go out if for nothing more than to say that they have seen them.

Ancient Treasury Notes.

WASHINGTON, September 2.—Two treasury notes bearing date Feb. 23, 1842, were sent to treasurer Jordan last week, with the following request: "If worth anything send check, if worthless return them." The notes were ragged. They are made payable to the order of John Smith, bear 6 per cent interest and have one year to run. If they are worth anything they are worth \$53 each. It is the opinion of treasurer Jordan that they are genuine. He has referred to the register to know whether the notes bearing these numbers and dates have been paid. The register replies that they have not been paid. Controller Durham decided that if they are genuine they may be paid out of any fund in the treasury. Their payment was provided for before they were issued.

To be Retired.

WASHINGTON, September 11.—Inspector General Nelson H. Davis will be placed on the retired list on the 20th inst. His successor is understood to be either Gen. Roger Jones or Gen. Baird.

Callers at the White House.

WASHINGTON, September 11.—To-day was a busy day at the white house, and the president received a larger number of visitors than on any day since his return. Among the prominent callers were Secretary Bayard, Assistant Secretary Porter and ex-Senator McDonald. The president held a public reception in the east room in the afternoon, lasting nearly an hour.

The Puritan's Fault.

NEW YORK, September 8.—The Puritan was entirely at fault for to-day's collision off Scotland light. The ship Genesta was on the starboard tack and had the right of way. The Puritan was on the port tack, and in attempting to cross her bow less than one minute before the starting signal was given, fouled the Genesta, the bowsprit of the latter going through the clew of the Puritan's mainsail close to the boom, making a hole two feet square. The foot-ropes of the sail held the end of the bowsprit, which was broken off close to the stem head. The committee then ruled the Puritan out and told Sir Richard Sutton he might sail over the course if he wished. The latter promptly declined the offer with thanks. No one was injured. Both boats were towed to Staten island and will probably race on Friday.

Riel's Appeal Denied.

CHICAGO, September 9.—The Daily News' Winnipeg special says: The full court of Manitoba, composed of Chief Justice Wallbridge and Justices Taylor and Killman, to-day gave judgement on the Riel case, disallowing the appeal and confirming the death sentence passed by the Northwest territory court. It held that according to the evidence the jury could not come to any other decision than they did that by the Dominion statute, confirmed by the imperial parliament, the Northwest territory court clearly had jurisdiction; and that while the prisoner acted strangely at times, he is a clever, designing man, who sought to advance his own personal interests by using the half-breeds as tools. There is a growing conviction in Winnipeg that Riel will be hanged on the 18th.

She Really Resigned.

CHICAGO, September 9.—Regarding the change made in the United States pension agent's office here it is authoritatively stated that Miss Ada C. Sweet, the outgoing official, was not removed, but that she sent in her resignation last Saturday, and not because of any demand or request, but because she had received from an extensive manufacturing enterprise the general management of its business in the east. The announcement is made that Miss Sweet has accepted the offer and will establish her headquarters in New York.

Indians After Chinamen.

PORTLAND, Or., September 9.—A Seattle, Washington territory, special says: Last night a party of Indians, headed by white men, attacked a party of Chinese hop-pickers, thirteen miles east of this city, with clubs and stones, killing two and wounding four of the Chinese. The cause of the row was that in former years Indians had been hired exclusively to pick hops, and this year one firm hired Chinamen. They were warned to leave, but refused to go.

New Pension Agent.

WASHINGTON, September 9.—Mrs. Mulligan was appointed pension agent at Chicago to-day. She is the widow of Col. Thos. A. Mulligan, organizer and colonel of the famous "Mulligan brigade," whose gallant service in the Union cause during the early days of the late war are familiar to every reader of the history of that struggle. He was killed at Lexington, Mo., while gallantly defending that city. Mrs. Mulligan is about 40 years of age and is quite prominent in society and religious circles in Chicago.

Military Uprising.

LONDON, September 11.—Advices from Madrid say that the military uprising in that city is limited to one of the largest barracks. The soldiers seized their arms and shouted "Death to our chiefs." The

authorities, who had feared an outbreak, were prepared for the rising and vigorously suppressed it before it had time to assume formidable proportions.

Bad Outlook.

SAN FRANCISCO, September 11.—The Sacramento river is so filled up with debris and slickens washed down from the mines worked in past years, that passenger and freight boats can no longer reach Sacramento. Passengers and freight have to be transferred to light barges at the bend of the river below the city. All grain from the upper valleys shipped by water has to be lightered down. The shoaling of the river has increased so rapidly during the last three years that unless measures are promptly taken by the government to thoroughly dredge the lower basin there is every probability that Sacramento city and all the great grain growing valleys of northwestern California will be cut off from water communication with San Francisco.

Maynard and Admiral Jouett.

WASHINGTON, September 11.—Second Comptroller Maynard has written a letter to Rear Admiral Jouett, in regard to the item of \$4,000 paid for the entertainment of visitors to the flag ship Tennessee, at the New Orleans exposition, in which he reviews the whole question in the light of the points raised by the Admiral to the defense of the expenditure. He takes issue with the Admiral on the point that the expenditure could properly be made from the naval contingent fund and quotes from the decision made by Attorney General Devens that "contingent expenses, as used in the appropriation acts, were such incidental, casual expenses as are necessary or at least appropriate and convenient in order to perform the duties required by the department or office for which the appropriation is made." The comptroller says he has been unable to find any law which requires either the navy department or any officer of the navy to entertain public officials at the expense of the government, and adds that he cannot assent to the Admiral's statement that it has been the practice of accounting officers to allow such disbursement under the head of contingent or extraordinary expenses.

But whatever the practice in this respect may have been, he says, it will be conceded that, if unlawful, it cannot be too promptly discontinued. The comptroller adds that the records of the treasury department will bear him in this statement that from time immemorial it has been the practice where a public officer had received money belonging to the government to which he was, for any reason, not entitled, to make a stoppage in his pay account until the amount illegally received has been made good.

In concluding, the comptroller suggests that the Admiral bring suit for the portion of his pay withheld and so test the whole question.

The Trials at Regina.

REGINA, N. W. T., September 8.—Thos. Scott, one of the Prince Albert white rebels, was arraigned this morning on a charge of treason-felony. Messrs. Clarke, Q. C., and MacIse defend the prisoner. The indictment charges Scott with inciting to rebellion at various meetings held in March last, and with writing seditious letters to the French at the ridge in the locality of Batoche. Mr. Clarke, Q. C., entered a demurrer on the plea that he had not been served with a copy of the charge, and that the prisoner had had no preliminary examination. Counsel, in a long speech argued against the jurisdiction of the court, asserting that history had repeated itself now as in 1774, when the obnoxious Quebec act was passed. Then, as now, men were flung into jails, and justice became a farce. The objection was overruled, and the trial goes on to-morrow. Big Bear will probably be tried to-morrow.

Joys of Western Journalism.

[From the Chicago News.]

Mr. Fred W. Nye, the genial editor of the Omaha Republican, has been in the city for two days on a peculiar errand. He has been trying to engage a city editor for his paper. The sole qualification Mr. Nye requires in his city editors is sobriety. There was a time when he required brains, but that time is past. He only looks for an editor who can look upon the cup that cheers and likewise inebriates, and yet be in condition to hustle for news and write it up when he gets it. According to Mr. Nye there is something peculiarly intoxicating either in employment on the Republican or in Omaha beer. For the last two years the Republican has been edited by a procession of inebriates passing through the office. Man after man was tried with no success. The new man would take hold at noon, get his instructions and the lay of the land, and no more would be seen of him until he came in at 3 a. m. next day gloriously oblivious to everything. This is Mr. Nye's side of the question, but a journalist who has just returned from a brief sojourn upon the Republican tells a different tale. He says that he landed there a few months ago, and engaged as city editor. He asked what time the staff reported for duty, and found to his horror that he was the staff, and that he was required to get up each day the bagatelle of something like 16 to 24 columns of matter. "You will report," said Mr. Nye, "at half past seven o'clock to-morrow morning. The Amalgamated Society of baggage smashers holds its annual convention. It will last till noon. Cut it short. Don't make more than three columns of it. At noon the Methodist ministers hold a meeting at the First Methodist church. Do 'em up in about a column. You know how to do board of trade and the markets, of course—the usual amount. Then at 3 o'clock take a run around the hotels and bring in a couple of columns of interviews and the personals. There's a meeting of merchants at Boyd's opera house at 5, and the police stations and hospitals will have to be covered. Dash off a column of editorial squibs for the fourth page, and drop into the theaters at night. When you get back at eleven o'clock you can set up the markets and read proof till press time. Take a hand at the press and make yourself useful folding papers. The circulator will give you a route to deliver in the river district. That will keep you busy till seven o'clock." "But," said the new editor, "I won't have anything to do for a whole half hour."

A Smart Coon.

"Is the coon a smart animal?" asked a stranger of old Si Jackson, on Onion creek. "Talk about coons being smart, I should say dey was coons." "Well, how smart are they?" "A coon played me de meanest trick you eber heard tell on. I foun' a hole whar de coon went into de ground, and I waited dar all day long to shoot dat coon, and when he did come out he was a polecat."—Texas Sittings.

Curing a Bad Memory.

Your memory is bad, perhaps, but I can tell you two secrets that will cure the worst memory. One—to read a subject when strongly interested. The other is to not only read, but think. When you have read a paragraph or a page stop, close the book and try to remember the ideas on that page, and not only recall them vaguely to your mind, but put them into words and speak them out. Faithfully follow these two rules and you have the golden key of knowledge. Besides inattentive reading, there are other things injurious to the memory. One is the habit of skimming over newspapers, all in a confused jumble, never to be thought of again, thus diligently cultivating a habit of careless reading hard to break. Another is the reading of trashy novels. Nothing is so fatal to reading with profit as the habit of running through story after story and forgetting them as soon as read. I know a gray haired woman, a life lover of books, who sadly declares that her mind has been ruined by such reading.—St. Nicholas.

Brethren, is there a man with soul so dead, who never to himself has said—"I will my local paper take, both for my own and family's sake?"

If such there be, let him repent, and have the paper to him sent; for if he'd pass a happy winter, he in advance should pay the printer.

Book and Job Printing a specialty at the RIVER PRESS office.