

THE RIVER PRESS.

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It is reported from Quebec that a commission will be appointed to examine Riel as to his sanity. The government must find some way to save the half-breed leader.

The New York republicans nominated their candidate for governor yesterday and who ever it may be he will have a pretty hard race of it in November. Carr led on the first ballot.

CHESTER A. ARTHUR is pleasingly photographed at Lenox, Mass., as a very little grayer and not a bit greener than when he left the white house, and the bracing air of the Berkshire hills is doing him a world of good.

It is claimed by an association called the "American Annexation League" that Riel was captured on American soil, and they have called the attention of the president to the alleged fact. There are clearly no grounds for such a claim.

HORACE R. BUCK of this city would not refuse the appointment of secretary of Montana if the president would generously bestow it. Mr. Buck would make an excellent officer and the RIVER PRESS would be pleased to see him succeed.

The destructive prairie fires now raging in Dakota should be a warning to Montanians. The grass in this portion of the territory is just becoming dry enough to burn with good effect and travelers over the prairie should henceforth exercise due caution.

It is announced that the Canadian Pacific will be completed and prepared to carry freight and passengers through to the Pacific on the 5th prox. The main line being completed, then look out for branch building. The Fort Benton line will be the first undertaken.

An order has been received from Washington at the military headquarters directing all commanders of military posts in this department to furnish whatever details that may be necessary to carry into effect the president's proclamation regarding illegal fences on the public domain.

The report of the appointment of Mr. Borie as assistant justice for Montana, to succeed Judge Galbraith, and of A. J. Steele receiver of the Helena land office, proves to have been a canard, and both of these gentlemen continue for the present in private life. It was a cruel hoax, and Judge (?) Borie and Receiver (?) Steele will probably not hear the last of it for many a day.

The city of Hartford, Connecticut, takes its place in the statistical tables as proportionally the richest city in the United States. The assessed valuation is \$48,000,000; but counting in establishments though owned or chiefly represented in Hartford this would rise to \$125,000,000. The city pays one third of the taxes of Connecticut. The new capital with the land cost \$3,335,000, of which Hartford contributed \$1,960,000; that is, nearly two-thirds.—Harpers Monthly.

BUSINESS OUTLOOK.

Bradstreet's Journal, in its commercial summary, on the 19th inst., says: "No gain on the recently reported improvement in trade circles is recorded by the special telegrams to Bradstreet's received yesterday. In most directions the full measure of the movement is maintained, but that is all. From Chicago, St. Paul, St. Louis, Cincinnati and Detroit at the west, comes the word that interior purchases are as heavy as previously. It is noticeable, however, that at no important trade center, east or west, have discount rates or call loan rates advanced. There has been a noteworthy gain in the employment of surplus funds, but bankers appear thus far to have been anxious to employ their idle capital at the lowest rate. This, together with the continued disposition on the part of the railroad managers to cease rate cutting with the somewhat squally railroad tariff outlook among the granger lines, and of the heaviness of wheat and of anthracite coal, and of the average of business failures from week to week, continue the salient features of the trade situation. Iron is slightly firmer and in better demand. Prices are unchanged. Steel rails are encouragingly in demand, but no more. The movement of dry goods from jobbers and agents continue quite as active as heretofore noted, and the firmness in the prices of prints and bleached and brown cottons is fully sustained. The net average gain in prices of raw wools since August is about three cents per pound. Speculation in wool is noticeable, although sales to manufacturers after the late heavy distribution are not made as freely as ten days ago. The wool clip of the country is estimated to be short about 20 per cent."

PRAIRIE FIRES.

The first report of a prairie fire in this section appears in our local columns today, and unless more than usual caution is exercised there will be many such occurrences to record before snow flies. The grass has continued green until the present time, but has dried rapidly since the late frosts, and the period of danger is now fully upon us, requiring the utmost precaution on the part of freighters, travelers and others who traverse our prairies. But few prairie fires are set out wantonly or maliciously; they are usually the result of carelessness, and no amount of warning seems to be effective in preventing them. The statutes provide a severe penalty for carelessly setting out fires, but even this is not sufficient to check the ravages of the prairie fire fiend. In northern Montana grass is king, and if needs be the stockmen and others should combine to fight fires and take such measures as may seem best to prevent and check them. This is a matter of vital importance to the stock interests, and too often it is not given the attention it demands. The fire now raging beyond the Harwood lakes, and which has gained dangerous headway, threatens to invade the winter range of the Shonkin association, or at least to do a great deal of damage, and there should not be a moment lost in seeking to check its course. There is no way to prevent these fires except to keep the subject in agitation and warn the public in every way possible. They can be checked, however, by united and organized effort on the part of those most interested, and on every range there should be steps taken to this end. Now is the time for organization so that when the danger comes it can be speedily met and overcome.

THE DREDGE BOAT.

The fact has been clearly demonstrated that the money expended in the dredge boat has been money well spent. The question of the thorough improvement of the upper Missouri is now settled. With a liberal appropriation from congress one season will be sufficient to make a navigable stream to Fort Benton for eight months of the year, fully doubling the present boating season. The dredge boat has made this grand result possible, as those of our citizens who have seen it at work are free to admit. There is now a fair channel to the Coal Banks and boats can come that far as long as the river is clear of ice, although it could be much improved by the aid of the dredge. Capt. Horton informed us to-day that a few months' work would suffice, with the boat, to make a channel of fifty feet of the required depth at low water, from Benton to the Coal Banks, and that he would be willing to enter into a contract, and give sufficient bonds, to accomplish this result next season. The dredge boat and the work it can perform are not matters of experiment. With this boat, which is proven to be one of the very best in the service of the government, 1,500 yards of gravel can be removed daily, and a progress of one hundred feet a day made through the hardest bars. Schemes of improvement in the upper river that would require an outlay of hundreds of thousands of dollars can be accomplished, and more effectually, by the aid of this boat for one-tenth of the money, and if congress and the river commission deal fairly with the upper Missouri it will not be long before the season of navigation from Benton down will be eight instead of three months. The importance of this result to our city cannot be overestimated, and it behooves our citizens to do everything possible to aid in its accomplishment. Delegate Toole could not render better service for Montana than to secure, if possible, the necessary appropriation to carry on the good work of improving the upper Missouri river.

DESERT LAND.

Commissioner Sparks has written Col. George, special agent for Wyoming, the following instructions: "I am in receipt of your letter of the 4th inst., submitting observations upon desert land entries in Wyoming. You state that such entries are made upon land not desert in character, and upon lands in respect to the character of which you are in doubt; also that they are made of subdivisions of sections along streams for the purpose of controlling the water, and thereby controlling the back country. "The law declares what lands shall be regarded as desert lands under the act. They are lands which will not, without irrigation, produce some agricultural crop, and the commissioner of the general land office is to make the proper decision and determination. It has already been decided that hay is an agricultural crop. Lands, therefore, which produce grass sufficient to make hay, are not desert lands within the meaning of the law. Lands that are partly desert and partly agricultural, cannot be entered under the desert act. No person is obliged to take an entire section. He can choose a smaller area if he desires, but the land entered must be of the proper character in each of

its subdivisions. The entry must also be in compact form. Contiguity is not compactness. Entries are not permissible in small subdivisions along streams to control the water supply."

JUMBO's skeleton will pass into the possession of the national museum and will soon be brought to Washington, by an arrangement made with Mr. Barnum some time ago, when Jumbo's skin and skeleton was given to different institutions. The museum had choice of skeleton and the skin, and chose the former. If the national museum had not this claim upon Jumbo's bones it is thought there would have been a struggle over them, the skeleton of an African male elephant of such size being esteemed a great prize, scientifically. It will probably be a year before the skeleton takes its place in the museum.

THE following is a copy of an advertisement which appeared during the past season in the Lowell (Mass.) Times: "Salt Breeze house, Gravelly Beach, Me. Open from July 1st to Sept. 23d. Baga-topen & Buggins, proprietors. Finest beach on the Atlantic coast. Prohibition law successfully evaded."

An Important Discovery.

The most important discovery is that which brings the most good to the greatest number. Dr. King's New Discovery for Consumption, Coughs, and Colds, will preserve the health and save life, and is a priceless boon to the afflicted. Not only does it positively cure consumption, but coughs, colds, bronchitis, asthma, hoarseness, and all affections of the throat, chest and lungs yield at once to its wonderful curative powers. If you doubt this get a trial bottle free at any drug store.

ST. PETER'S MISSION Boarding School for Boys.

Under the direction of the FATHERS OF THE SOCIETY OF JESUS. The object of this institution is to afford means of a solid moral, mental and physical education to boys. Tuition free. Board, \$10 per month. Washing and mending, \$1 per month. For further particulars inquire of REV. T. DAMIANI, S. J., Fort Shaw, M. T., or to REV. P. EBERSVILLE, S. J., Fort Benton, M. T.

Ursuline Convent of the Holy Family, ST. PETER'S MISSION. NEAR FORT SHAW, M. T.

This institution, under the direction of the Ursuline Nuns, is situated in one of the most beautiful locations of Montana. It has been lately opened for the purpose of affording the young girls of this country every advantage for obtaining a solid and useful education. Particular attention is given to preparing children for their First Communion. Tuition free. Board, \$10 per month. Washing and mending, \$1 per month. Music, \$5 per month; use of piano for extra practice, \$1 per month. For further particulars address the MOTHER SUPERIOR, Fort Shaw P. O., M. T.

INSURANCE!

Persons wishing absolute protection against loss by FIRE, LIGHTNING, TORNADOES or CYCLONES, of Stores and contents, in towns - also country houses, ranch buildings or other farm property - can obtain the same from us in a line of undoubted FIRE INSURANCE COMPANIES which we represent, having

Assets of over \$45,000,000

We can furnish information of all kinds of insurance, whether of property or persons, Accidents or Life; also adjustment of averages of losses of every description; commutation of Life Policies and Annuities.

ASHBY & LUKE, Insurance Agents. Fort Benton, M. T., dw-3m July 29th, 1885.

R. A. RICHIE, DEALER IN General Merchandise ROCKY POINT, M. T.

HEADQUARTERS FOR Miners' and Stockmen's Supplies.

Low prices and first class new goods. GOOD STABLE IN CONNECTION Highest Market Price Paid for Furs and Skins. SHEEP FOR SALE.

As we have more sheep than we can accommodate on our range, we wish to sell a band of about 2,500. Will sell a band of ewes and lambs entire, or straight ewes and wethers, in quantities to suit purchasers. As we have 15,000 sheep on our range to choose from, parties wishing to buy will have no trouble in finding what they require. These sheep shear a heavy fleece of fine medium wool, much sought after by buyers, as our sales of wool for the last three years amply prove. In 1882 our wool was purchased by Healy, at Fort Benton, at 25 1/2 cents per pound. In 1883, at Fort Benton, by Samuel Wilkinson, at 19 cents. These sheep are warranted free from scab and ticks, and all other diseases pertaining to sheep. For further particulars address—SAGE CREEK SHEEP CO., UTICA, M. T.

Did you Suppose Mustang Liniment only good for horses? It is for inflammation of all flesh.

BENTON & BILLINGS STAGE CO.

NEW COACHES. REDUCED RATES.

Shortest, Quickest and Cheapest Route to the EAST and SOUTH.

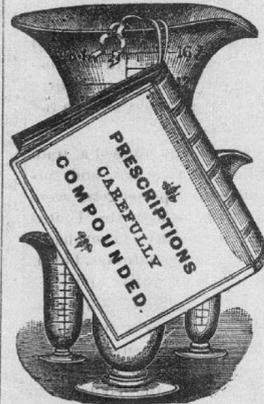
First-class Accommodations along the Line.

\$20 Fort Benton to Billings. Time, 46 Hours.

Direct connections with the NORTHERN PACIFIC R. R. at Billings. Through tickets at reduced rates to all points East.

We are now making direct connections at Ubet for White Sulphur Springs, passengers should leave Benton on Mondays, Wednesdays and Saturdays for this point. We have reduced the fare Benton to White Sulphur Springs, \$18.00; from Benton to Maiden, \$17.00; Benton to Maginnis, \$18.00.

T. C. POWER & BRO.



W. J. MINAR, DRUGGIST, FORT BENTON, MONTANA.

DEALER IN Drugs, Notions, Toilet Articles, Perfumery, Patent Medicines, Paints, Oils, Etc., Etc.

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CHAPS, BITS AND SPURS OF EVERY KIND.

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For Men, Boys and Children!

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AT NETT COST, TO REDUCE STOCK.

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