

YELLOWSTONE MONITOR.

ABSOLUTELY INDEPENDENT.

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THURSDAY, JAN. 9., 1908.

THE COUNTY PRINTING CONTRACT.

A recent issue of the Review devotes nearly three quarters of its editorial page in an effort to justify the board of county commissioners in granting a contract to the Review for the county printing at a price far in excess of the bids tendered by the other two county papers.

His entire article teems with mis-statements, palpable falsehoods and scurrility, interspersed with fawning, lickspittle praise of the board of commissioners. Let us say at the outset, that each and every one of the board members are better known to a very large majority of the citizens of this county than they are to the recent editorial importation which directs the destinies of the Review, and possibly do not stand in need of the Review's opinion on matters touching their probity. Be that as it may, it is nevertheless true, that when a majority of the board handed the printing contract to the Review at figures several thousand dollars in excess of what the other county papers offered to do the same work for, they were not safeguarding the interests of the taxpayers, nor were they acting honestly as a board. The Review man states his contract to be thirty-three and one-third per cent less than statutory prices for most of the work, that portion not covered by statute to be done at an advance of twenty per cent above cost, adding, "that certainly is fair." Saying nothing about the value of the work performed, it was only fair provided it was the best the commissioners could do, but when they were offered the same work at a saving to the county of from \$3,000 to \$5,000 it was certainly NOT FAIR to Mr. Taxpayer.

Metcalf's "First—The Review does not desire, nor will it accept any graft contract from any source," is rather racy reading from the pen of a man whose first bill against the county was largely in excess of the stated price named in the contract under which he was doing the work, while his wrath at having his bill cut to the agreed price, and his threats of vengeance openly voiced against County Clerk R. L. Wyman for calling the attention of the board to the discrepancy, are happenings of too recent date to be forgotten. We have not space in this issue to give attention to all the recent discrepancies, but we promise to give some interesting scenes behind the Review curtain for the benefit of our readers as the weeks roll on. Wouldn't it be funny if we made the name "Grafter James" stick as closely to the present editor of the Review, as we made the name "Grafter John" stick to his predecessor? There are some queer things not yet brot to the lime light of public inspection and we shall see what we shall see.

Regarding the telephone talk between the publisher of the Independent and the "Review Grafter," the latter only quoted sufficient of the conversation to suit his elastic conscience. From the beginning of the telephone talk it was evident that "Grafter Jim" was expecting the printing contract to be handed him on a silver platter, thru the medium of his henchmen, the three L's, who were then engaged in the missionary work of converting the county commissioners to their way of thinking. He forgot to mention "that if he cud trust Martin of the Monitor, he would be willing to combine (and hold up the county) but you know how he is, he could not be trusted to enter into an agreement and keep it, so it will be every man for himself." This Judas Iscariot was just like his predecessor in keeping business transactions, and the "Stout graft good for \$900 a year guaranteed from the county" had much to do in deciding the said "Grafter Metcalf" to lend us poor mortals in Dawson county his august presence until such time as another rainbow appeared to hold better inducements out to him than the present "fat berth."—Glendive Independent.

Speaking of contracts "this page" referred to The Independent having

the county printing contract at full statute rates, which is the only true statement appearing in the long-winded, misrepresented statement of fifty-four inches of defence which interests seven persons particularly, namely, J. A. Metcalf, the three county commissioners and the "dope" mixers—the three L's. The Independent inherited the county printing contract when the Glendive Times suspended publication in 1886, and from that time until 1898 furnished everything that was ordered, never once having to be called down by the board for overcharging or not furnishing the goods on time. In 1905, the Independent, Monitor and Review were asked by the commissioners to submit bids. They did so and the lowest bid accepted, that of the Review. A year later up bobs the present rainbow chaser of Montana publisher J. A. Metcalf, who had John K. Stout's interest in the Dawson County Review transferred to himself, contract, good will, subscription list and type lice. He came, he saw and he conquered (one of the boys who had money and was willing to add a "little bit more to the former little bits" he'd been feeding into the "hell box"). Did we say he conquered everything? Hardly, for as soon as he became familiar with Stout's county printing contract which he so magnanimously accepted and agreed to carry out, he made a "holler" loud enuf to be heard on Froze-to-Death creek in Custer county, and ever since has very charitably let the County of Dawson furnish what books, blanks and other work it needed, go out in the cold bitter world and buy them, irrespective of the contract held by himself. The question now before the taxpayers, both republicans and democrats, is whether Metcalf's bond "was a straw bond or a righty one" and whether the commissioners will hold said bondsmen for the loss sustained by the county, just the same as they wud any other contractor who did not fulfil his contract. There seems to be a first-class opening here for the probe of a grand jury.—Glendive Independent.

COURT CONVENED

Judge Loud held a three day session of district court this week, commencing on Monday. A jury list was also drawn and the next session set for the 20th of the month.

Two young men, John Villiers and Will Miller, both under 18 years of age, pleaded guilty to charges of grand larceny and were sentenced to the reform school.

The case of the state against Jas. McNabb on a charge of grand larceny was dismissed, the county attorney holding that sufficient evidence had not been procured to convict.

Elizabeth Skidmore was given a divorce from Ray Skidmore on the default of the defendant. Fifteen dollars per month alimony was allowed for the support of the child.

The case of H. J. Halvorsen versus C. C. Hurley on the bankruptcy petition of J. G. Hendrixson was set for the 20th, and the case of E. C. Leonard versus the Northern Blue Grass Land Company for the 21st.

A famous chapter of local history was ended when Judge Loud, on motion of the plaintiffs' attorneys, dissolved the restraining order against the houses of the red light district.

John Kartevold and Nikolai Kalberg, both natives of Norway, were granted their final papers and became good citizens of Uncle Sam's domain.

The will of John B. Kelly was admitted to probate and Ed. O'Neil appointed as executor.

Sallie Walters was granted a decree of divorce from Don Lucas Walters.

In the matter of the guardianship of A. Walsh, Thos. Walsh of Eldora, Iowa, a brother of the defendant, was appointed as guardian.

The real estate case of Kelly versus Green occupied the attention of court yesterday. A motion to strike out parts of the defendant's answer was submitted on briefs and taken under advisement by the court.

A jury list was drawn as follows: Ed. Hatton, W. Henderson, Fred Volkert, S. W. Goodspeed, A. E. Aiken, E. P. Baldwin, Henry Schnell, Fred Jensen, Knute Valseth, Frank Thomas, W. J. Henry, M. A. Heren, C. E. Sims, H. Gleason, J. R. Sawyer, Arnold Griffin, E. S. Herrick, Sven Oftung, F. E. Erdman, W. J. Edington, Nick Phillips, D. R. Mead,

A. D. Tennant, Jno. Martin, W. F. Nye, C. Frankenberg, J. C. Russell, Jno. Hellman, R. Schwanke, A. S. Foss, Jas. Fountain, Fred Burch, H. B. Nelson, Fred Schryver, Wm. Ryan, W. F. Jordan, Clark Eyer, G. B. Williams, Daniel Tunem, C. A. Brooks.

Correspondence.

DOTS AND DASHES

Rev. J. A. Barnes of Helena will hold services at the Ridgelawn Hall on Sunday, Jan. 12th, at 10:30 a. m.

Ed. Dore of Ridgelawn left last week for surgical treatment for an eye which he injured while stacking grain last summer. He supposed that he got some chaff in it and despite local treatment it continued to grow worse until he was threatened with blindness.

The fine weather continues without any indication of a change.

Nick Comford was a down passenger on the stage the first of the week, being on his return to Mondak from a business visit to Glendive.

George and Fred Rhode returned from Miles City on Tuesday. They report a most enjoyable holiday trip.

A Mr. McMillan, an attachee of the Miles City land office, came down with the Rhode brothers for a days' vacation.

The baby girl of Mr. and Mrs. Ollie Stanhope of Fairview died early Tuesday morning of scarlet fever. The funeral was held from the house at 1 o'clock Wednesday afternoon, services being conducted by Rev. L. S. Schermerhorn and interment being in the Fairview cemetery. The bereaved parents have the sympathy of the entire community.

C. M. Severance of Ridgelawn met with a severe and painful accident on Tuesday, whereby he received a very severe ax cut on the foot, the blade of the ax splitting the second toe and cutting back to the instep and thru the ball on the bottom of the foot. In the absence of a physician K. E. Herbert was sent for, who promptly responded to the demand for aid, and deftly and successfully dressed the wounded member. It was a very bad gash and will keep Mr. Severance laid up for some time.

Old Mr. Hastay, father of William and Bryce Hastay of Ridgelawn, is very ill at the residence of his son Bryce. He is under the care of Dr. Morrill, but his extreme age, seventy-four years, coupled with the severity of his complaint, ulcer of the stomach, renders the result of his illness very doubtful.

W. B. Herbert is at Tokla, putting the sawmill plant of A. A. Frederickson in shape for sawing.

We wonder sometimes how long poor old Dawson county will have to carry as a burden, that politician's pet organ, the Review. And again we

wonder how long the people will stand for such grafting deals. And again we wonder if the powers that be will ever grant to long-suffering Dawson county, the panacea of a grand jury investigation.

Miss Dora Harper has resigned her position in the Newlon postoffice and will no longer lick stamps for the public.

Zephyr.

CARD OF THANKS

To each and all, the orders and to each and every friend, who by their sympathy, care and many kindnesses lightened Mr. Mack's pain and our sorrow and cares, and for the many beautiful flowers which he so much loved, we extend our most grateful thanks.

Mrs. John Mack.
Mr. and Mrs. Sol Heren.
Francis Donald Mack.
John Archie Mack.

FOR SALE

Thirty-three hundred head of sheep. For particulars write or call on John J. Carey, Newlon, Mont. 32 tf.

Disturbed The Congregation

The person who disturbed the congregation last Sunday by continually coughing is requested to buy a bottle of Foley's Honey and Tar. Glendive Drug Co.

Hotel Jordan.

Connected with this popular hostelry, said by commercial men to be the best between Dickinson and Billings, is the McIntyre annex and the Yellowstone annex, both used exclusively as dormitories. Both are newly fitted and ranchers and stockmen will find most excellent accommodations at low rates. The most exacting demands of traveling men are also supplied ad libitum by the proprietor, E. J. Berry. 14tf

Estray Notice

Ten dollars reward for the return of one light bay mare, five years old, large white star on face, branded  on left jaw and  on right shoulder, and  with one white hind foot.

James LeParr,
36tf Fairview, Mont.

Special Bargains on Fur Coats and Winter Covering of all kinds at
ORRA J. KEMMIS' STORES
RIDGELAWN AND SIDNEY.

The Ideal Beer

Is Hamm's Delicious "Preferred Stock"



The Beer you drink should be pure. We guarantee Hamm's under the National Pure Food Law and also the Food Laws of all other states. Our guarantee label is on every bottle. "Leads Them All."

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Mr. Handsome fell in love with Miss Beautiful, that's his business.

After a few months of ardent wooing Miss Beautiful falls in love with Mr. Handsome, that's her business.

A few more months of pleasant courtship, Miss Beautiful and Mr. Handsome call at the Parson's—that's his business.

Now Mr. and Mrs. Handsome realizing that they had taken upon themselves the actual responsibilities of life, did the next wisest thing. They called at the office of HILL & MILLER, First National Bank building and bought for themselves a "Handsome" Home.

THAT'S OUR BUSINESS!

HILL & MILLER.

Call on us for all kinds of Real Estate, both Residence and Business properties. Insurance written in best companies.

HILL & MILLER,

'Phone 185

Over First National Bank

We wish to thank all our friends for the extremely liberal patronage of the past year and we wish you, one and all, A HAPPY NEW YEAR.

Rivenes-Wester Hardware Co.

THE STOVE MEN.

RESOLVED THAT SNOW IS NOT THE ONLY THING THAT FALLS THIS TIME OF THE YEAR. OUR PRICES ARE COMING DOWN ON SOME OF OUR VERY BEST VALUES. WE DON'T WANT ANY LEFT-OVERS BUSTER.



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YES, OUR PRICES HAVE FALLEN BUT THEY HAVE NOT FALLEN ON SHIPPED IN "FAKE STUFF." THEY HAVE FALLEN ON WHAT WE HAVE LEFT OF THE REGULAR LINES OF GOOD MERCHANDISE. IT IS IMPOSSIBLE TO BUY JUST WHAT YOU ARE GOING TO SELL AND NO MORE. WHAT WE HAVE LEFT OF OUR WINTER GOODS WE SHALL SELL AT GREATLY REDUCED PRICES.

LADIES AND CHILDRENS COATS AT 25 PER CENT DISCOUNT.

LADIES AND CHILDRENS FURS AT 25 PER CENT DISCOUNT.

ALL CHRISTMAS GOODS, DECORATED CHINA, DOLLS, EMBROIDERED ARTICLES, HAND DRAWN LINENS ETC. AT 1 QUARTER OFF.

RESPECTFULLY,

Glendive Mercantile Company.