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SATURDAY, MARCH 14, 1891.

THE UNIVERSITY QUESTION.

The Helena Journal strikes the nail on the head when it says: There is no single subject of more importance to the people of Montana than that of deciding upon the location of the state educational institutions, and as to whether they shall be scattered over the country or consolidated in one great State University.

Senator Gibson of Cascade county struck the key note on this question during the late session of the General Assembly, when he opposed all efforts to obtain snap decisions as to the location of some branches of the University, and made a plea in favor of submitting the matter to the people after they have had time to fully consider it.

Great Falls, Missoula, Bozeman, or some other place possessing the requisite advantages might be decided upon. The exact spot upon which the University shall be situated is of very little importance as compared with the necessity and advantage of it being put all together at the best place that can be found.

Perhaps for centrality, altitude and general suitability no better place than Great Falls exists in the state. On the river bank above the city is as glorious a site for a university as could be found in the world. There is a broad and beautiful sweep of the river there suited to rowing and all aquatic sports in which students delight, and which are so beneficial in their development. Who can imagine a university without a river near by?

Missoula could provide a site almost equally attractive and desirable, but it would be better to select a place where there is now no human habitation than to permit political wrangling and see-sawing to subject the State to the sickening experience of Oregon, where these institutions were divided up like other political trophies. The question should be discussed by all the newspapers of the State amiably, intelligently and candidly. We must first agree as to the necessity of keeping the institutions together, and then the site can be decided by a vote of the people, like that which will take place regarding the location of the State Capital.

In Sunday's Journal will be given a number of very instructive and interesting opinions of the ministers of Helena on this important subject. The views of these gentlemen should be read by everyone who feels any interest in the future of Montana.

THE ISSUE 1892.

The St. Louis Republic is one of the most strenuous advocates of free coinage, and represents the democratic party in Missouri in this. Yet, says the St. Paul Globe, it insists that tariff reform shall be the great overshadowing issue in 1892, as it has been since 1888. If the silver requirement can be pulled along at the same time, it would so have it. If not, it must wait. It must be subordinate to the tariff issue. The democrats cannot afford to endanger the question upon which the party is united, and on which it can move on to sweeping victory. The St. Louis paper recognizes the fact that there cannot be the same alignment of forces on the silver as on the tariff line. It anticipates that the evolutions of the presidential year will establish its view of the situation. The congress that meets next December will have more than a two-thirds majority of Democrats in the house, and that body will early in the session pass a free coinage bill. This will go to the senate and remain in the hands of the committee for an indefinite period. The house will then be wrestling with the McKinley bill as the campaign opens and the party platforms are made. It will, by the logic of politics, be the foremost question. The campaign will be fought on it. This, it is conceded will invigorate the alliance party and insure its coming into the field with a national ticket. With the

comprehensive sweep of the inexperienced in politics, it will insist upon taking its full budget into the arena and contending for all its objects at once. Neither of the old parties will meet the views of those who would have the government become a great money loaner, with real estate and commodities as securities. This will probably be one of the prominent features of the Alliance platform. In some of the western states that party will gain from both of the other parties considerably, and may carry enough of them to throw the election into the house. No event more unfavorable to the Democrats than this is at all probable. The house will have a clear majority of the states for the Democrats, whatever the shape of issues. With tariff reform as the central purpose, there can be little room for doubt that the vote of 1891 will be a good index to the outcome.

DONAN ON STANLEY.

There are few papers that have not fallen in the wake of the acclaim that has gone with Stanley on his tour, as the greatest explorer of modern times, and, in fact, the combination that has opened up an unknown continent in the Fargo Argus of Sunday. Colonel Donan fires at the African traveler a half-column of his particular rhetoric when he is not eulogizing. The colonel has probably done more traveling in the last decade than Stanley, and perhaps over more lands. It is not, however, to be supposed that any envious feeling induces him to say that Stanley is "the prince of humbugs," "a mountebank and fraud," who really never found anybody in Africa who wanted to be found. If the colonel is correct, it is desirable to know the facts, as it would be humiliating to find out that a hero who is to be worshiped is but a stuffed image. A debate on the subject between Stanley and Donan would draw like the strong arm of the dentist. This is a sample of the Donan picture:

Stanley and his band of ruthless pirates have set back the chariot-wheels of African progress for many a year. They have driven the devil-worshippers of the Congo and Nyanza regions to believe that their wildest orgies of savagery are tender and merciful compared with the barbarisms of civilization and so-called Christianity—the civilization and Christianization of Bartolot and Jameson and Stanley—the hideous missionaries of lust and rapine, torture and murder, who have left a 4,000-mile-long trail of fire and blood and horror—a trail of serpents of hell—from Loango to Bagamoyo.

PATRONIZE HOME INDUSTRY.

The two newspapers of this city employ twenty-five men and pay out in wages each month at least \$2,500, all of which enters into "the medium that circulates" and helps to make Great Falls the prosperous city it is. Outside of the big smelters, there is no enterprise in the city that pays more money in wages every week of the year than the newspapers and no person, firm, company or corporation is expected to, and actually does, more hard gratis work for the community. We are led to make this statement of facts on account of the recent action of the board of trade, which, having decided to issue a little folder, orders it sent to St. Paul to be printed, without even extending to the publishers of the city the ordinary courtesy of asking for estimates on the work. It is quite likely that some back-alley job office in St. Paul, where girls and boys are employed at starvation wages, can execute this work much cheaper than it can be done in Great Falls, but suppose it does cost the board a few dollars to patronize home industry, would they be out and injured very much in the transaction? We are inclined to think not. The job department of the TRIBUNE at this time is rushed with work and we care nothing at all about the printing of the little document in question, but it is the principle of the thing that we strongly and persistently object to. It would be just as proper and consistent for the board of trade to adopt resolutions recommending that our citizens save money by sending east to cheap John establishments for their groceries, hardware, clothing, dry goods, etc. Should they follow the distinguished pattern of the board of trade, which ought to be a shining example in the matter of promoting home industries, this is just what they would do. The Great Falls board of trade is an excellent institution and has done much good for this city and county, but it could easily stand a little broadening of ideas on the subject of patronizing home industries.

WILL WALK TO THE NORTH POLE.

A new Polar expedition is on the cards. It will be undertaken by civil engineer Robert B. Peary of the United States navy, who has secured a leave of absence for eighteen months with this object in view from the navy department. Mr. Peary proposes to start on his expedition from St. John's, N. F., about the 1st of next May. His idea is to go as far north as a whaling steamer will carry him and then strike for the north pole on foot across Greenland. He expects the steamer will carry him to a point somewhere about Whale sound, which is just below the entrance to Smith's sound on the west coast of Greenland. On arriving there Mr. Peary will make preparation for his long journey across the country. He intends to have as small an accompanying party as is consistent with absolute necessity. Possibly it may be composed of not more than four or five natives, and the baggage and other impediments will be reduced to the lowest scale also.

This new aspirant for scientific laurels is not entirely without experience in traveling northern latitudes. Two years ago, with this plan for reaching the pole in his mind, he was granted six months leave of absence and made an extensive exploration of the interior of Greenland, accompanied by a few natives and dogs, in order to ascertain the condition there existing of climate, topography, transit facilities and food supply. The results of this expedition were of a nature to encourage him in the belief that his scheme for traveling overland to the north pole was quite feasible and since his return he has been quietly getting ready for his final and important attempt.

BEN BUTTERWORTH PLEASSED.

Hon. Ben Butterworth is particularly pleased over the substantial victory which the liberals gained at the Canada election. "The significance of the result is exactly the same as that of the November election in the United States," he said. "It is a protest against blocking the highways of commerce, and says emphatically that the barriers which stand in the way of a free interchange of commodities must be removed. The liberals have been far more successful than I had expected. The time is coming when the proposition contained in the bill which I introduced in congress four years ago will be generally accepted by the people both in this country and in Canada. As it is the whole opposition to this measure seems to rest with a few American districts along the Canadian border, which are alarmed lest they may be obliged to take a few pennies less for eggs, cabbages and potatoes. We need more freedom of trade in this country or we shall soon reach a crisis."

THE BOND QUESTION.

Another election for the bridge bonds! This is what the people of Great Falls are talking about today. Paris Gibson appeared before the commissioners this morning and stated that the bill enabling counties to incur indebtedness was passed, but no restrictive clause was incorporated; hence Cascade county can neither build nor purchase a bridge without again voting bonds. One man exclaims, "This is statesmanship on the half-shell!" another points out the extra expense, and other the delay. All these features are bad enough and it seems that here was a blundering oversight which will not easily find excuse at the hands of the taxpayers of the county.—Leader.

We quote the above extract simply to show to what limit prejudice may go. The bill to enable counties to incur certain indebtedness was carefully drawn up after consultation with the best lawyers of the state and it covers the ground completely. The bill could not have been made to render valid the bond election of last fall, because that would have been special legislation, which is strictly prohibited by the constitution. Mr. Gibson's bill covers the ground as fully as it was possible to make it, and we have no doubt the people of the county will be only too glad to vote again in favor of issuing bonds for necessary public improvements. As might be expected, the observations of the Leader are uncalled for and unjust.

The expenditures authorized by the fifty-first congress will exceed those of any "peace" congress since the foundation of the government. The total appropriations made by the fiftieth congress were during the first session \$395,337,516, and during the second session \$422,636,842, or an aggregate of \$817,954,359, while the appropriations for the first session of the fifty-first congress were \$460,627,097, and those of the second session will probably bring the total appropriations for the congress to a \$1,000,000,000. The surplus left by the democratic administration has gone glimmering.

Great Falls people are interested in Boston & Montana matters at Butte as well as here. Referring to the progress on the great Lewishon shaft, the Miner says: "The Lewishon shaft being sunk by the Boston and Montana company between the Colusas at Meaderville has reached a depth of 500 feet, at which point it has intercepted the crosscut from the East Colusa. After the station is cut and fixed up in shape the sump will be deepened, at the completion of which it is thought that the new hoisting engine will arrive from the factory. After the new engine is in place sinking will be resumed and continued until a depth of 1,000 feet is attained. Then the Boston and Montana will be prepared to work its Meaderville properties on a scale more extensive than ever."

An Omaha dispatch says: A colossal scheme for fraudulently securing millions of acres of land throughout the Pacific coast states was exposed today in the operations of the firm of G. M. Baldwin, wholesale lumber merchant. The plan of the company has been to send men by the carloads to California or Washington and Montana, in charge of agents, who take up timber claims promiscuously under the company's directions, which are afterwards deeded to the lumber people. The firm pretends to have a capital stock of \$1,000,000, and have arranged to establish mills to work the timber thus obtained for the eastern market. The company have agents in Chicago, St. Louis, Kansas City and Denver employing idle men for the purpose.

The time has come when history must be rewritten. I am just the man to rewrite it. The popular idea that the late distinguished philanthropist, Mr. Bull, the shining product of nineteenth century civilization, Hon. Rain-in-the-Face, and their enlightened followers killed Gen. Custer and his men, is entirely erroneous. It is, moreover, a gross calumny upon the Sioux, that forthright class of all our fellow-citizens. Gen. Custer was killed by a fall from his horse. The two hundred and odd members of his command all died of consumption and la grippe.—Indian Commissioner Morgan.

It pains us exceedingly to note the fact that the Leader is not pleased with the management of the banquet Wednesday evening in honor of Senator Paris Gibson. Everybody in the least interested is happy over the event, and the fact that the esteemed Leader is making a "kick" goes fully to show that they ought to be.

The St. Paul Globe is going to write up Butte to the best of its ability provided Butte will put up about \$5,000 worth of advertising patronage. The St. Paul papers have quite a circulation in St. Paul, but as a rule, very few St. Paul people come to Butte to buy their groceries, dry goods and hardware. For this reason the Globe will probably have some trouble in securing the necessary patronage.—Butte Inter Mountain.

The Globe fakers ought to come to Great Falls. Our board of trade, which sends its meager amount of printing to St. Paul for execution, would probably jump at such a proposition.



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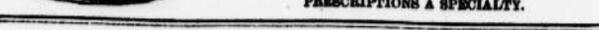
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