The Benton Weekly Record.

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⅛ Column, 3 months	20

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We have every facility for executing the finest classes of Book and Job printing, and our prices are as low as those of any other printing establishment in Montana. All Book or Job work must be paid for on delivery.

W. H. BUCK, - Editor and Proprietor.

CHANGE OF MANAGEMENT.

W. H. BUCK has again assumed editorial control of the RECORD. Horace R. Buck and W. H. Hunt, jr., will hereafter devote themselves exclusively to the law practice of Buck & Hunt; and Charles L. Spencer has accepted a position in the house of T. C. Power & Bro., Benton. W. H. Buck has associated with him in the management of the RECORD Harry B. Hill, who from this time forth is its business manager, with full authority to collect all debts due the paper and solicit patronage for it.

SHIPHERD has left Washington in disgust.

GENERAL Brady's bail has been fixed at $20,000 on his recent Star Route indictment. Nathan W. Fitzfield is his bondsman.

THE Senate has amended the army bill, fixing the retiring age at sixty-four years. The amendment excepting Sherman and Sheridan is tabled. The bill will be returned to the House, which will probably adhere to former action.

IN the New York assembly the committee to whom was referred the advisability of impeaching Judge Westbrook made two reports, a minority being in favor of impeachment and a majority opposed. The assembly adopted the report of the majority.

THE body of Thomas Jefferson, the greatest American statesman our country has ever known, has been removed from Monticello, Virginia, to Greenwood Cemetery, Washington, D. C. Monticello is no longer owned by the descendants of Jefferson, and hence the removal.

ALEXANDER H. Stephens declines to consider any independent nomination that may be tendered him for the Governorship of Georgia. He says he will accept a Democratic nomination or none. There is still some backbone left in Mr. Stephens, and the right kind, too.

IT is a pleasing fact that President Hayes was the originator of the phrase in the campaign circular of the Republican Congressional Committee that contributions to the party fund by government employes "will not be objected to in any official quarter."—*National Republican.*

A GENTLEMAN of mathematical turn of mind submits the following: "If a paper with a liberal number of dead ads. loses money at fifty cents a week, how will its profits size up at the end of a year when it charges only half that sum?" We give it up. Perhaps our highly esteemed neighbor can tell—*River Press.*

Our fresh Cotemporary will probably learn from practical experience how the thing sizes up.

ARABI BEY, the Egyptian war minister, who leads the opposition to the Khedive's administration and to European domination in Egypt, is said to be by nature a quiet, unambitious man. But his mind has been fired by the speculative vaporings of European political enthusiasts, to whom he has always lent a ready ear.

ACCORDING to an official return 4,014 persons were drowned within the limits of Great Britain during 1880. This large number does not include deaths from shipwreck. There were 3,374 males and 770 females, and 1,019 of the whole number were children under 12; 471 were suicides, 423 bathing accidents, and 21 were murders.

THE steamship Alaska, of the Guion Line, left New York on the 30th ult., having among her passengers the Hon. Wm. H. Hunt, Minister to Russia, and the Hon. Alfonzo Taft, Minister to Austria, with their respective families. She arrived at Liverpool within seven days, making the quickest trip between the two points that has ever been recorded.

EVERY day seems to make more and more patent the fact that Mr. Keifer is utterly unfit to be speaker of the House of Representatives. Neither him nor his followers nor the Democrats appear to have any respect for his rulings. A few days ago the latter came near offering a resolution in favor of his removal from the chair for incompetency.

THE able management of Col. Woolfolk made the *Independent* the leading newspaper of Helena and compelled the Fisk family to seek salaried positions to save the *Herald* from bankruptcy. Now that another Colonel has been added to the *Independent* management, we expect soon to hear that Helena has but one Journal and the Fisks have resumed their old profession of bull-whacking.

GUITEAU received with outward composure the announcement of the failure of the last effort of his counsel to secure a rehearing of his case. He proceeded to denounce the court *in banc* as cowards and cranks and said God had revealed to him that he was to be taken care of by God. He said God works through human agencies and that President Arthur is to be the agent to save him if necessary.

A REPRESENTATIVE of the *Rocky Mountain Husbandman*, recently prospected around Maidenville, but was unable to induce a single resident of the camp to subscribe for his paper. Thereupon the *Husbandman* pronounced the camp a failure and warned all pilgrims to give it as wide a berth as he intended to do for the future. Should the gentleman have the temerity to visit Maidenville again his second reception will probably be warmer than the first.

THE carriages of the late Emperor of the French have been all sold save two. One of these was the coronation coach which has been sent to England as a present from Eugenie to Victoria. The other was the carriage, all shattered and riddled with balls, which conveyed their Imperial Majesties to the opera when Orsini's shell exploded. The Emperor would not allow this carriage to be either restored or destroyed, but loved to gaze upon it as a proof the good luck which he declared would never desert him.

THE people of Deer Lodge valley are much exercised over the attempt of a sawlog corporation to navigate Warm Spring creek. The log parties have been arrested on what the New Northwest calls a "baseless complaint for a criminal act," which seems quite proper on further stating that the stream is "diminutive and dewy" in the dry season. This reminds us of a remark made by Captain Clark in reference to navigating the Missouri river above the falls. "To navigate that stream you will have to build a boat that can climb a tree."

HON. Charles S. Wolf, of Pennsylvania, says: I deprecate the action we will be obliged to take. I deprecate Democratic ascendency in the State, but all hope of peace is at an end. Nothing is left but war—war against the spoils system and bossism. Let the future take care of itself. I have full confidence in the intelligence, wisdom and patriotism of the people. If they prove themselves able to overthrow the spoils system and boss rule, they can be relied upon to successfully meet any other evil that may confront them." Yet this same Wolf was willing enough to listen to Doc Cameron a few weeks ago when the latter hinted at an office for him or the "boss" ticket. Cameron threw him one, and once more Mr. Wolf is a reformer. So it is with all our political reformers.

For some time past rumors have been going the rounds of the press that Major Maginnis would locate in Minnesota at the expiration of his term. We have been satisfied from the first that they were without foundation, and so stated in the *Independent*. The following telegram from delegate Maginnis to Col. Woolfolk effectually disposes of all such unfounded statements, which are said to owe their origin to a certain Republican aspirant in this territory. Doubtless in this case the wish was father to the thought.

The following is the telegram:

WASHINGTON, D. C.,
June 5th, 1882.

Col. A. M. Woolfolk:

"The statements that I purpose leaving Montana are utterly groundless and untrue."

MARTIN MAGINNIS.

—*Independent.*

IT is annoying and exasperating to have American citizens who are charged with no crime arrested and imprisoned by any foreign power. But the case recently reported from Germany is altogether unlike the cases of the American suspects in Ireland. The latter had no charges laid at their door, while this German-American is conceded to have been a deserter from military service in Germany. We have no treaty with the German Empire covering such cases as this, and it is doubtful if such an agreement will ever be made. It may be doubted if even our own Government would consent to forego its claim on an American who should desert from our Army, secure naturalization in Canada, Mexico, or in any other country, and then come back to his old home. The best thing for our German-Americans to do is to keep out of Germany if they left that country after being duly notified to report for military duty.

THE project now before Congress for connecting the Mississippi with the Great Northern Lake system of water transit to the coast, by the construction of sixty-five miles of canal, from near the government armory and arsenal on Rock Island to Hennepin, on the Illinois river, seems to be receiving very general recognition as a great national work in the interest of cheap transportation of food. The people of the Northwest have long felt the necessity for this all-water route to connect them with their Eastern market as a freight regulation. Chambers of commerce and boards of trade are renewedly urging the matter on the immediate attention of Congress, and the Eastern press is discussing the subject favorably in its bearings upon the question of cheap food, and Congress is urged to take it up at its present session, and act upon it as a measure of immediate utility.

SENATOR SEWELL, from the Committee on Military Affairs, made a majority report to the Senate in favor of the bill for the relief of Fitz John Porter. The bill is amended in some particulars, and as reported it authorizes the appointment of Gen. Porter to the position of Colonel in the army, with the same grade and rank held by him at the time of his dismissal from the army. It provides that he shall receive no pay, compensation or allowance whatever for the time intervening between his dismissal from service and his appointment under this act. Senator Logan presented a long minority report against the bill. The vote in the committee on the question of making a favorable report was: Yeas—Sewell, Cockrell, Maxey, Grover, and Hampton. Nay—Logan. Senators Cameron of Pennsylvania, Harrison, and Hawley were absent. The majority report says that the action of President Arthur in remitting the unexpired portion of the sentence, based upon a review of the findings of the Board, relieves Gen. Porter's present application for restoration from the objection that Congress would be revising the sentence of the court martial.

THE BARKER BOOM!

Wild Excitement in the Camp!

$1,000,000 IN SIGHT.

The W. & E. Tunnel Strikes the Vein at 140 Feet!

ESTIMATED VALUE OF THE MINE $12,000,000.

A BALL IN HONOR OF THE GREAT OCCASION.

News From Gold Run and the Montana District.

HUGHESVILLE, M. T., June 7th, 1882.

To the Editor of the Record:

The Barker boom has come at last. The long-talked of tunnel has struck the vein in the Wright and Edwards mine. The first reports did not half fill the bill, and the vein has doubled in thickness since the first accounts were published about a week ago. The ore body on the east side of the tunnel is over two feet wide, and at the west end of the mine, over 800 feet from where the tunnel cut the vein, it is already

OVER FOUR FEET WIDE

and still increasing in thickness. The Wright and Edwards mine to-day is a better property than the famous Alice and Magna Charter and Moulton mines of Butte, and in the hands of a man like Bob Walker it would be worth twelve million dollars. There is no buncombe in this; I speak by the card and know exactly what I am muttering about.

THERE IS ONE MILLION DOLLARS WORTH OF ORE IN SIGHT NOW,

and the mine is sending down carbonates and galena to the smelter as fast as teams can haul them. Some of the croakers may have thought the Barker camp dull this spring, but if they could now take a look inside the tunnell or even visit the camp and witness the excitement that the good news has caused, all adverse speculations would cease forever. I cannot begin to describe the exhilaration that prevailed throughout the district when word came that the vein had been struck. Every man, woman and child in the camp dropped everything and ran for the tunnel. For awhile some thought the report a hoax, others believed that only a small body of ore had been opened up, but when the whole truth became known the camp was simply wild with excitement. I would here state that while the Wright and Edwards has always been considered the leading mine of the district, its owners have labored under so many disadvantages, and its developement has consequently been so slow and unsatisfactory, that even those most interested in making the Barker District a permanent and prosperous camp had lost faith in the early development of the mine. Experts believed the ore was in the mine, but they had little faith that the present owners would be able to get it out. All things considered, however, the work has been prosecuted with a great deal of energy, and the managers well deserve the success with which their efforts have at last been crowned. The Barker District has a permanent boom now. It already contains one of the richest silver mines in the Territory, and if its numerous other veins should prove equally valuable there would be nothing to compare with it in the mining history of the world.

A BALL WAS GIVEN

in honor of the completion of the Wright & Edwards tunnel. The entertainment was held in Foley's hall, which, by the way, is second to none in Benton, a building seventy feet deep by thirty feet wide, two stories high, with iron roof. The ladies turned out in full force and tripped the light fantastic until they had broad day light to go home with. There were sixty-four tickets sold and twenty-four of Barker's fair damsels graced the occasion. Everybody was well pleased with the night's fun and satisfied that the Hughesville boys and girls could get up a dance worthy of this great occasion.

GOLD RUN,

or Clendenin, the town on the trail to Hughesville, is livening up of late, some building going on; the saw mill is running and the smelter fired up gives the little place a business-like air. Professor Foss is putting up an immense coal house, calculated to hold fifty thousand bushels of charcoal. There is also a rumor that there will be twenty thousand dollars worth of improvements added to the smelter this summer, so that she can be run up to her full capacity, which, I believe, is forty tons per day. When the smelter begins to run forty tons of ore Barker's prosperity will be assured. There are no idle men in camp. A great many have gone to

THE MONTANA DISTRICT.

The mines there are opening up fine and the rock assaying away up in the thousands, but as I have never been in the camp I cannot speak positively of the work accomplished. The "Queen of the Hills," and "O'Brien," the "Montana Chief" and the "Massachusetts" are the leading mines of the district. Frank Stalabras and B. F. Fitzpatrick have made a rich strike recently that goes

ONE THOUSAND OUNCES TO THE TON.

They are sacking ore at their mine now, to bring in to the smelter for treatment, that will show up what the Montana District really is better than all the rich assays they could publish. The boys deserve success, as they are working like beavers for it. That they may soon find it and abundantly is the earnest wish of your correspondent.

The dissatisfaction felt by saloon keepers and others affected by the late vigorous enforcement of the Sunday Law was of course expected. That more opposition has not been experienced is a matter for congratulation and speaks well for the law-abiding character of this class of citizens.

LATER REPORTS.

Later reports from the Wright & Edwards mine not alone tend to confirm previous favorable accounts, but furnish additional evidence of the value and extent of this newly discovered ore body. Work upon the mine is progressing steadily and rapidly, and as soon as additional force can be obtained the process of development will be applied at every available point that can hasten the work and furnish a basis for computing the amount and value of the ore contained in the mine. Meanwhile sufficient ore will be taken out to keep the smelter constantly at work, and as the capacity of the smelter is said to be forty tons or more per day, it is safe to say that the stock holders will soon begin to realize handsome dividends from the sale of bullion.

Perhaps the most encouraging feature about the Wright & Edwards mine is, that the ore is constantly improving in character, and more favorable to treatment. If the ore had proved refractory the cost of working it into bullion would have discouraged more confident and skillful managers than the owners of the W. & E. from continuing the work of development. As it is, even the limited capacity of one smelter is sufficient to give employment to a large number of men and without the addition of the other machinery would soon enrich the stock holders of the mine and prove a most profitable investment to its own enterprising proprietors. We are informed, however, that a sum exceeding twenty thousand dollars will soon be expended for additional machinery, the smelting company feeling justified in this expenditure by the promising future of the mine, and as the Barker and other Companies of the District are also about to secure large forces of men for an early and vigorous development of their claims, it seems likely that within the present year the camp will not have to depend upon the capacity of one smelter, but of many.

On our first page will be found a brief and interesting history of the Barker District, with other information interesting and valuable to capitalists and men seeking their fortunes in our Territory. At present there is a great demand for men to work on the Wright & Edwards, and probably over three hundred hands will find immediate employment at good wages. Experienced miners are of course preferred, but the present want is so urgent that even green hands will be acceptable. It is believed that the Belt mountains have not been half prospected and there is a chance yet for old-timers and new-comers to find mines as valuable even as those of the Barker District.

THE DEAD PATRIOT.

The death of General Garibaldi on June 2nd, has touched the hearts of the Italians most keenly. The old patriot passed away from life at the age of seventy-five, at his farm home on the Island of Caprera. The popular mourning for him is not for his loss to the present, but is wholly retrospective. He was an old man because of the "dangers he had passed" even for his advanced years, and had long since retired from public activity. So long as Italy is a nation, however, the name of Garibaldi will be remembered and idolized. He was a patriot of the people, endued with the spirit of an old Roman tribune, and during his long career endeared himself to the masses in a thousand different ways. What Victor Hugo has been to the French people intellectually, Garibaldi has been to Italy in deeds. He was an extremist, objective and direct, and with a rugged nature that felt a stern delight in the din of battles. Yet, while his life shows numerous inconsistencies, history must award him the place of a patriot and hero. The people, that is the populace, of Italy will always demand this, and with logic and reason, too, lurking indefinably in their prejudice and blind favoritism. This old soldier and popular idol had a wild and adventurous career. Three times he had to flee from his native land to escape death; and again and again he tendered his service where he believed that the common people, the oppressed, were fighting for liberty. In South America he fought for the Republic of Rio Grande; and led a legion of his fellow countrymen against the Dictator of Buenos Ayres. He served as a soldier of fortune in Tunis, and as an exile once found refuge in the United States. In Italy, however, and Italian wars he won the glory of his life. With Mazzini he entered into a conspiracy against the King of Sardinia in 1832, and years after in 1848, he served the Provincial Government sitting at Rome. He fought for Italy and France against Austria in 1859 and in the next year in Sicily conquered the Neapolitan troops, and hailed Victor Emanuel "King of Italy." This, perhaps, was the main achievement of his life. He had always hoped to consolidate Italy under one common Government, and although instead of a republic of which he had dreamed, he was forced to accept a monarchy and allow his sword to be directed rather by the great Italian statesman, Count Cavour, than himself, in order to accomplish it, nevertheless to Garibaldi, popularly, more than to anyone else belongs the credit of uniting his native land, even though Count Cavour's brain evolved the scheme and made it successful. After this in 1862 he made an unsuccessful attempt in behalf of the Hungarians against the old enemy of Italy, Austria; and once more in 1866 took the field against Austria in the Austro-Prussian campaign. His last experience as a soldier was in the next year when he marched against Rome and failed to accomplish anything. Since then up to the time of his death he lived quietly in Caprera, realizing that his public life was over. Garibaldi leaves two sons; but both of them are said to be utterly unworthy of their great father, the one being stupid almost to simplicity and the other being a confessedly unscrupulous and untrustworthy man. His wife was an ignorant, Amazon camp follower.

BISMARCK, Dakota, is said to be losing its population. The town should have been built upon wheels and moved with the railroad terminus or back to Fargo. Butte City will also soon realize the vanity of believing itself a permanent Metropolis.

THE BARKER DISTRICT.

Where the Mines are Situated And How to Get to Them.

DISCOVERY of THE BARKER AND W. & E.

Incorporation of The Company.

HOW THE BARKER DISTRICT COMPARES WITH DEADWOOD AND OTHER MINING CAMPS.

Principal Towns Established since the Discovery of the Mines.

FUTURE OF THE CAMP.

The strike of one of the largest solid veins of silver-bearing quartz in the West, in the Barker mining district, will draw as much attention to the Belt mountains as has been given to Butte and other mining camps in the Territory of late years. There is no doubt about the wealth of the camp, and from the eager way in which the news of the big strike has been grabbed it would seem as if we are to behold a stampede never before surpassed in Montana. Anticipating this rush of miners and strangers to the mining district, we append a brief sketch of the locations, mines etc., which are creating the stir.

THE BARKER DISTRICT

is located sixty-five miles south of Fort Benton, in the Belt chain of mountains. The means of access to it are by way of Benton or *via* Diamond City, in Meagher county. At present the travel is almost entirely by way of Benton whence there are stages and good roads. The altitude of the new camp is not over 4,000 feet above the sea level.

IN THE WINTER OF 1879-80

the first discoveries and locations were made. The quartz was galena-bearing silver which assayed well, and by spring time a number of prospectors were hard at work in the hills staking off claims. Up to the fall of 1880 there was no extraordinary excitement. The miners whose opinions were worth listening to, however, held on to their claims and predicted a big camp. All the returns from ores sent away were satisfactory, if not large. The mine which has worked the present excitement, the

WRIGHT & EDWARDS,

was claimed all this summer (1880), but not much work was done beyond an amount which showed *something*. Capital sought even the bare chances and it was thought best to go right ahead with the mine and develop it. Work was pushed and a quantity of ore taken out and shipped down the river to Omaha, where the smelting yielded large returns. This was encouraging and led to mine work throughout the whole camp, in which there were now about 200 leads marked out. The

BARKER AND GRAY EAGLE

lodes were bonded to eastern parties and improvement began. Still, the camp was under heavy disadvantages. There was no road fit to be travelled entering the gulches, no railroad near, no smelter, no hotel, no town—nothing in fact, to hasten the growth or invite capital. But despite all this, never for an instant was faith shaken, and the owners of the Wright & Edwards mines were determined to find out whether or not there was a main lead of their promising vein. A force of men was put on the work and large sums of money expended. To better enable the owners to realize an amount of funds the mine was stocked for

ONE MILLION DOLLARS

and a company incorporated, with the principal office in Benton. For one year now the work of tunnelling the mine has been going on, slowly but steadily. Owners of other claims for the most part have done more or less work about the hills, but as the success of the mines was to be practically determined by the opening up of the Wright & Edwards, the most intense interest has been felt in the progress made in those leads. The reward has come at last, for when the main lead was struck, in but short time thereafter could be seen the finest body of ore in Montana. The

SMELTING COMPANY

which had erected works last year in Gold Run, a village of the Barker District, is now at work and will be kept more than busy in smelting the ores of the great mines. The news of the rich strike has made another camp of Barker, which had in some ways grown dull. Miners who were without means and had to leave their claims and seek employment elsewhere returned at once when they heard the good news, and already there is a stream of strangers going into the gulches. Enthusiasts—if men who appreciate a mine of such fabulous wealth as the Wright & Edwards are enthusiasts—predict that by October there will be a rush to Barker which will be like the stampede to

DEADWOOD OR LEADVILLE.

Everything points to that belief. There are to-day in the Barker District two hundred claims which bid fair to exhibit as much if not more ore than the Wright & Edwards. All that is needed is capital and labor. The ore is in the ground, but the claims are lying idle for lack of money to push their development. It is a fact that *no camp in the Territory of Montana has any such prospects as the Barker District.* Moreover, it is bound to be one of the famous mining regions of the United States. Each and every expert who has visited the camp, pronounces the mines rich and very soon several of the leads which are now bonded will be bought up by foreign capitalists.

The inducements offered to men of all classes are great. Labor is in demand, machinery is wanted and merchandise must be consumed by the large immigration.

THE PRINCIPAL TOWNS

are Gold Run, Hughes City and Meagher City—the former, the location of the smelter and the latter two lying by the big mines. The growth of these places has been healthy heretofore, but now it will be likely to the way Butte was settled up. Property is quite valuable upon the main streets but not fictitiously so. Lots may be entered by payments of small fees to the local recorders. Naturally there is some speculating in town property, within the passed week.

THE WHOLE CAMP

is astir and elated. Barker has seen the transitory dark days that seems to befall every rich camp, and through which, perhaps many a fine district never comes safely. The enterprise shown by the Wright & Edwards people has told the mining world that in the Belt mountains are bodies of ore unequaled in the Rocky mountains. In conclusion we advise all persons who contemplate setting out for the new district to equip in Fort Benton where the stores are good, prices low and means of transportation easy. The boom has come and if money and people are not plenty this fall it will be contrary to every reasonable argument or prediction.

THE "MAGINNIS COUNTRY."

We are indebted to G. K. Barnes, General Passenger and Ticket Agent of the Northern Pacific Railroad, for a copy of a printed circular setting forth the advantages and inducements offered to settlers in the Yellowstone valley. The circular refers more particularly to the mining interests of the valley and mentions the Maginnis country as the leading gold and silver region of the world. Perhaps the N. P. Company are too much interested in the settlement of this unquestionably fine section of country to give much weight to their assertions regarding its resources. But that the Yellowstone country is one of the finest valleys for settlement to be found in any part of Montana is a fact too evident for dispute and has been so held by the most disinterested residents of our Territory, as well by strangers who have travelled any portion of its fertile soil, or searched for hidden wealth among its mineral bearing mountains.

Maidenville, or the "Maginnis Country," is known to be rich in quartz and placer mines, and the latter have yielded abundantly for the short period they have been worked. The quartz mines have already attracted the attention of capitalists and some of our shrewdest quartz sharps have advanced heavy sums of money for their development. But the effectual efforts made by the railroad company to people this region appears to have excited a strong jealousy in some quarters and adverse journalism has been brought to bear in opposition to the flow of immigration. To counteract this influence, although weak and ineffectual, the circular alluded to has been issued, and the company have also in preparation a pamphlet giving detailed information regarding the Maginnis and Clark's fork mining district, including a correct map of the country in which these mines are situated. It is difficult to understand why there should be opposition in Montana to the settlement of any section of country within its limits, but more especially of a region whose resources when developed must add so much to the general prosperity to the Territory. Nothing but narrow minded, prejudice and the most contemptible selfishness could prompt such a course in face of the fact that nothing but a large and continuous flow of immigration can develop the boasted wealth and resources of our Territory. Thousands of people may seek homes and occupations in Montana and declare themselves deceived and disappointed after a few days trial, but we have yet to know the man who, having energy and determination, has failed to succeed even beyond his most sanguine expectations. There is not a word contained in this circular regarding the Maginnis country that can be called an exaggeration of the true facts, although perhaps written solely in the interests of a railroad company. The truth is the facts cannot be exaggerated, and are misunderstood or purposely belied by parties whose personal interests are in opposition to the general welfare of the Territory.

RINGS.

SINCE the first election of Judge Tattan to the office of Probate Judge down to the present time, there has been no combination, concerted action or understanding among the county officials of Choteau county that could be called a fraudulent political Ring, or that presented any appearance of a Ring, except to the minds of a few ignorant, envious and mischief loving persons. While other counties of the Territory have suffered from the frauds practiced by dishonest officials, the financial management of this county has always been most creditable, as may be learned by any intelligent and unprejudiced person who may feel interest enough to investigate the Records for the past seven years. There is a class of people who regard our public officials as professional thieves because they are themselves dishonest, while others consider a county debt, however unavoidable, as conclusive evidence of incompetent or fraudulent management. It is singular enough that, as a rule, these suspicious citizens are the first to demand liberal appropriations for local enterprises or improvements from which they may derive direct or indirect benefit, and immediately become the enemy of any official who, for economical reasons, may object to the expenditure. Every public officer has also his private and political enemies, and from these and the classes mentioned come the cries of fraud, rings and corruption, until no man can now accept office in Choteau county without danger of losing his character as an honest and conscientious citizen. The truth is, as already said, there has been no dishonesty in office since the first election of Judge Tattan as Probate Judge, and there is none now. We have had several sets of officials since then and we believe they have all tried to discharge their duties as well as they knew how, and small thanks they got for it.

These remarks are suggested by the approaching political campaign and the attacks already current against the present local administration. Such attacks are mean, cowardly, contemptible. Our Probate Judge is one of the best and most efficient that has ever held the office and we hope and expect that he will again be a candidate. Sheriff Healy could not be matched in the county, but is not eligible for another term. Mr. John Hunsberger cannot be defeated if nominated, and we trust that he will take the office for at least another term. And so with the other gentlemen who now hold office. They are honest and efficient officers and have no tincture of the ring about them.

IT is now, it seems, a settled fact that the Black Hills are to have a railroad. The new road is called the Wyoming & Western, and will tap the Sioux City & Pacific at the Nebraska line west of Ft. Niobrara, crossing the Cheyenne near the mouth of Rapid Creek, thence up Rapid Creek. Work will also be begun at Rapid City as soon as possible. It is calculated that this road will connect with the North Pacific.—*Bismarck Tribune.*

DR. MARY Walker is again in trouble, this time with her Washington landlady. It happened the other morning that Dr. Mary found a letter on the hall floor of her residence, which she supposed to belong to her, but which really belonged to the landlady. She did not discover her mistake, of course, until she had read the letter, and the landlady inconsiderately got out a warrant for the Doctor's arrest on a charge of tampering with the mails.

WHAT is known as the Pond license law in Ohio has been very recently decided to be unconstitutional by the Supreme Court of that State. The constitution of Ohio provides that "no license to traffic in intoxicating liquors shall hereafter be granted in this State, but the General Assembly may by law provide against evils resulting therefrom." Yet in spite of them the party advocates of temperance went to work and had a law passed which sought to evade the Constitution by calling a license a tax.

THE authorities at Washington propose that there shall be no bungle in the execution of Guiteau, and to that end are reported to have engaged the services of James Van Heise, of Newark, who has adjusted the fatal noose about the necks of thirteen New Jersey criminals. There has been so much of bungling and so much that is questionable in connection with the trial and imprisonment of the assassin, that it is to be hoped the final act in the tragedy will be marked by the absence of anything unnecessarily sensational or unusual.—*Minneapolis Tribune.*

THE Chicago Inter-Ocean remarks that "the annual story about Indian troubles in Dakota has been started upon its rounds by those who desire to retard immigration into that section of the country, but there is no cause nor excuse for it. There never was less probability of an Indian outbreak in the Northwest than now, and each year it becomes less and less probable." The latest story, and about the silliest of the season, fixed the scene of hostilities at Frederick, on the Hastings & Dakota extension. There is about as much probability of an Indian outbreak in that section of the country as there is of a hostile invasion of the United States by New Jersey.

THE report of a grand land and colonization scheme, entered into by the duke of Manchester, President Stephens, of the Canadian Pacific, R. B. Angus, vice-president of the St. Paul, Minneapolis & Manitoba railroad, and Mr. Searth, of Toronto. The plan is to buy a large amount of Canadian Pacific bonds and exchange them for Canadian Pacific lands chiefly in the Saskatchewan country. Connected with the scheme is an immense colonization project, including among other things the erection of farm houses for settlers unable to build, and sale to them on easy terms. Opinions differ somewhat as to the effect of the scheme, but the general view is that unless the syndicate hold large tracts of land out of the market it would result in great benefit to the province by stimulating immigration and settling up sections as yet wholly undeveloped.

MR. JAMES H. MILLS, late Territorial Secretary, retired from office on the first day of the present month. For many years Mr. Mills has been editor and proprietor of the *New Northwest*, one of the most popular and ably-conducted newspapers in Montana, and probably received his appointment in recognition of valuable journalistic services rendered the Republican party, of which he has been a life-long adherent and a most faithful and valuable advocate of its principles. As a Territorial officer Mr. Mills has been zealous and efficient, and it is perhaps to be regretted that he has seen fit to decline a re-appointment; but secretaries are more plentiful than good editors, and Mr. Mills can be more conveniently spared from public office than from the editorial chair which he has so long and so admirably filled.

English papers announce the birth of a new daughter to Mrs. Richard A. Proctor, and now the distinguished Professor, the lady's husband, will for some time have very little to tell the public about the true meaning of the Pyramid of Cheops or the dangers of the coming comet. On the other hand, he will discuss the galaxy and the action of paregoric upon the higher nervous centres with a force and vigor which will need no explanation beyond what is supplied by the facts in his own particular case. Some years ago, when Professor Proctor was placed under conditions similar to those in which he now finds himself, he showed how mind can triumph over difficulties, and he then produced a charming essay in which he made use of his own extremities as part of his theme. In that paper, which dealt with unconscious cerebration, he showed how, while lying in bed, he could rock the baby's cradle with his toe without knowing what he was doing. When the youngster would squall the Professor's self-conscious toe would work automatically, and if it had had a good voice it would certainly have sung "Hush a-by Baby" on its own account, and thus got the poor man out of all his troubles. Let us hope that the new acquisition to the Proctor family will lead to still more important studies and discoveries.