

THE TRIUMPHS OF COMMERCE.

The fact that a Congress is now in session in Paris composed of representatives of all the commercial nations of the world, considering the question of constructing an interoceanic canal across the Isthmus of Darien, affords a pleasing topic for contemplation compared with the doings of our own Congress and the usual budgets of war news that almost monopolize the telegrams. We much prefer to see the world put under bonds to keep the peace than to hear of the outbreak of cruel, wasteful wars. We prefer to see an increasing proportion of the accumulating wealth of the world invested in enterprises that shall quicken the life of commerce and multiply the comforts of all who dwell in any quarter of the globe, than the continual squandering of national revenues on armored ships, Krupp guns, and standing armies. The triumphs of war have turned fruitful lands into deserts and strewn with ruins the fairest portion of the earth's surface. It remains for civilization and Christianity combined, enlisting the skill and wealth of those nations which must acknowledge their way to win triumphs of peace that shall heal the wounds of war and make the fruits of the earth tributary to the comfort and happiness of mankind.

The successful completion and more than self-supporting prosperity of such modern achievements as the Suez Canal, the Atlantic Cable, the tunnels through the Alps, our own Pacific railroad, and other similar achievements of this last half of the nineteenth century, cast into the shade the seven wonders of the ancient world, and outweigh all the splendors and glories of war in the centuries past. This peaceful Congress now sitting in Paris to fix the dower and draw up the marriage settlement for the prospective union of the Atlantic and Pacific oceans, possesses for us a charm and interest greater than surrounded the Berlin Congress, and by contrast make the glitter, parade and noise that attend royal nuptials appear like the empty sports of children.

It would seem that the human race were but just awakening from a slumber of ages to realize the meaning of the Creator's injunction to multiply and subdue the earth. Instead of multiplying they have been dividing and destroying. Instead of subduing the earth they have been subduing the people who dwell thereon, transforming men into slaves, obliterating the lineaments of their creator in whose image they were created and substituting the likeness of ravening beasts of prey.

The great success of the Suez Canal removes every doubt as to the success of the Darien Canal. It may take longer and cost more money, but the faith that removes mountains exists. The labor and expense required for the completion of this enterprise divided and sub-divided among all those who will be benefited thereby, will make the burden so light as to be scarcely noticeable. How grand the spectacle to see the nations of the world forming a partnership for mutual benefit, instead of mutual waste and destruction! What achievements are possible in renovating this world when such a partnership is once fully formed and heartily at work! What may not be accomplished when all the wealth now worse than wasted in maintaining armies and waging wars is turned to some productive purpose, and all the strong arms now wasting their strength in bearing weapons of destruction are usefully employed in increasing the earth's productive capacity. Who dares say what revolutions may be yet accomplished by a co-operation of the nations? Instead of the temperate zones of the earth alone being fit for human habitation it is not at all improbable that the rigors of the Arctic regions may be tempered by turning the great ocean streams around their shores, while counter currents may be made to conduct the superfluous cold of the polar regions to temper the tropic heats. In all these triumphs of commerce and peace for the welfare of the human race we earnestly hope that our nation, built up within a single century out of the waste and rejected material of the old world to be the strongest, richest and freest of all, may lead the van. We wish our Congressmen, instead of belittling themselves and sowing seeds of discord, would wake up to the opportunities and possibilities of modern statesmanship.

"The Resources of Montana."

The title of Mr. Strahorn's new book, an advance copy of which has been kindly furnished us by Auditor Woolman, is "The Resources of Montana and Attractions of Yellowstone Park." A large edition was subscribed for by an act of the last Legislature, and when they arrive will be distributed in accordance with that act. The book is a pamphlet of eighty pages, is full of all kinds of data concerning our Territory, and answers all questions that any one would be apt to ask who contemplate emigrating to Montana. The book will be largely distributed throughout the eastern country, and will be the cause of inducing a large immigration to this—one of the fairest countries under the sun. Mr. Strahorn, in the production of this book, has proved himself an author whose rare merits will be appreciated by the people of the West.

THE GALLOWES.

This method of inflicting the death penalty is certainly very old, for we read of Haman having prepared a gallows for Mordchai, of extraordinary height, on which his own neck was broken by a sudden turn in the wheel of fortune. The Romans also practiced strangulation, though it was done quietly in prison and without suspense. The sole purpose of choking a man to death at a rope's end several feet above ground has very little to recommend it in point of good taste or convenience, in fact we have always thought it the most inconvenient and revolting method that could ever have been conceived for putting a man to death. So long as a public exhibition as well as strangulation was the combined purpose there was something perhaps to be said for the present system. But the exhibition part has by common consent been dropped, as by long experience it has been found that instead of preventing crime by striking terror into the minds of the criminally disposed, it only tends to brutalize such as from idle curiosity attend such exhibitions, stimulating instead of repressing crime. For the same reasons the idea of adding disgrace in the manner of inflicting the penalty no longer cuts any figure in the question. If the penalty of death cannot deter the murderer, certainly the form of the infliction will not exert a greater influence. If public opinion has outgrown the practice of torturing the criminal by burning and drawing assunder, it is time to abandon all other considerations save and except the single one of preventing crime. Society has not yet reached that state where imprisonment is regarded as sufficient security against the most hardened and desperate criminals. There are too many chances of escape, and even the pardoning power is often used so recklessly that there is a sense of dread and insecurity so long as life lasts to the wretch who has shown that he possesses no respect for the sanctity of human life.

But we are not arguing as to the merits of capital punishment against imprisonment for life. We are only speaking of the method of inflicting the death penalty. And in this matter we are decidedly of the opinion that hanging by the neck is one of the most objectionable forms extant. Even the guillotine is better, and the garrote as used by the Spaniards and Italians is still better. In ancient Greece the custom of drinking the hemlock, as in the well remembered case of Socrates, was still more humane. The provision of law in Utah that the culprit may choose to be shot instead of hung, is an improvement; little as we might expect to see anything improved by such hands. If this liberty of choice were still further extended so as to allow the condemned to drink poison, we believe it would be a still further improvement, while doing away entirely with the barbarous and disgusting process of hanging. There is an able article in one of the recent numbers of the *North American Review*, which we commend to our readers. If the public mind is ever attracted to a careful consideration of the question, we are fully satisfied that these shocking exhibitions which so frequently occur at executions would never be heard of again. It is the death of the criminal alone that the law should in any event seek, or that the security of society requires. Let this end be secured by the most decent and least revolting method attainable and all the objects are secured that we have any right to seek.

The Glendale Shooting Affray.

GLENDAL, May 10, 1879.

To the Editor of the Herald:

A fatal shooting affray took place at Dewey's Flat, twelve miles from this place, on Wednesday, the 7th inst., between John Reeder and John W. Powell. The circumstance were as follows: Powell had a steer he wanted to kill and he went to A. M. Lebo, owner of a meat market, and obtained permission to use his slaughter house and tools for the purpose. Powell killed his steer, dressed it, hung it up in the slaughter house and came down town. Soon after Reeder who is an employee of Lebo's, went to the slaughter house with a band of cattle, inquired who owned that steer, and being told that it was Powell's got on his horse and rode down town. At the door of Walker & Manning's saloon he inquired if Powell was in. On being told that he was, Reeder alighted, went into the saloon and told Powell he wanted him to take the steer and entrals out of the slaughter house. Powell replied: "I won't do it, you s—." Reeder then struck Powell with the lash of a whip, when the latter put his hand behind him as if to draw a revolver. Reeder said, "You are heeled," and turned, got on his horse, went to the meat market, secured his 45 calibre gun, and stationed himself at the corner of the meat market. Powell, who was not "heeled," walked across the road to Madison's saloon, procured a gun, and started for the meat market. When about 60 feet distant Reeder called him and ordered him to lay down his gun. Powell said "shoot" and then jumped behind a Mr. Walker, who, frightened, ran away. Powell fell on his knees and received the fatal shot. The ball went through the left arm, into the left and out of the right breast, making a terrible wound, killing him instantly.

A coroners jury was held by H. H. Avery, Justice of the Peace at Glendale, and the verdict was that Powell came to his death by a shot from a gun in the hands of John Reeder. The jury disagreed as to whether the shooting was felonious or in self-defence. H.

ON THE WING.

BOZEMAN, May 13, 1879.

A ripple of excitement has been caused among the farmers of West Gallatin by the discovery of a piece of rich gold-bearing quartz. The prospector is quite reticent as to the locality in which the "find" was made, and at present writing little is known beyond the fact that the quartz was found somewhere in the mountains at the head of the valley.

On Monday last Mr. Jas. Cummings, an old-time Montanian, died at his ranch on the West Gallatin, after a sickness of only four days. His death was caused by the closing of the alimentary canal. Mr. Cummings came to the Territory in the early days, and for some years was engaged in the freighting business, but for the past few years has been farming. He was a man highly respected in the community, and his death will not only be a loss to his family and immediate friends, but to the whole section in which he lived.

Mr. John Harper took the coach this morning for the terminus. He will make an extended tour through Canada and many of the Eastern States, returning in about three months.

Monday Bozeman was treated to a fine military display by the garrison of Ft. Ellis. The troops marched down from the post and went through the exercise of a dress parade in town. They made a fine appearance. First came three buglers, then Gen. Brisbin and staff, consisting of Lieuts. Wright, Douglass and Gardner. Next followed three companies D, F and K, of the 2d cavalry, commanded as follows: Company D, by Maj. Gregg and Lieuts. Swigart and Huntington; Co. F, by Capt. Tyler; Co. K, by Lieut. Robinson. Then a battery of artillery, consisting of one piece of ordnance and two gulating guns, in charge of Ordinance Sergeant Nicholson. The next in column were Co's. G, 7th Inf., commanded by Capt. Browning, and Co. E, 3d Inf., commanded by Lieut. Mitchell. Commanding Sergeant Winkle represented the Commissary Department. Then followed a train of thirty wagons in charge of Lieut. Allison, 2d Cav. Quartermaster. The rear was brought up by Zed Daniels with the pack train. Zed is a favorite in Bozeman, and received quite an ovation. After some maneuvering the troops took a position in the vicinity of the Public School building. Of course the children were granted a recess to enable them to enjoy the spectacle. The wagon train was packed and the men stood at parade rest, while the battery came into position on the run, unlimbered and discharged several guns. The column was then re-formed and marched back to town. The handsome uniform of the officers and men, the nodding plumes and fluttering banners formed a brilliant scene, which to many was strongly suggestive of the exciting days of the late war. Arrived on Main street the command was halted, and the cavalry companies went through many evolutions with a precision which does them credit. Gen. Brisbin may be congratulated on the efficient condition of the garrison under his command. The affair was a most decided success and it is the unanimous wish of the community that the parade may be repeated at an early day.

F. M. WILSON.

Territorial News.

[Avant Courier, 15th.]

Court adjourned yesterday, Judge Blake, accompanied by Dist. Attorney Vivion, will start via the Yellowstone river to Miles City this week.

Six brand-new "jerkies," for use on the Bozeman and Tongue river line, were brought to town, direct from the Utah Northern terminus, on Sunday last. Messrs. Gilmer & Salisbury are stocking up this road in proper shape in anticipation of a large increase of business during the summer.

It is reported that recent instructions to Agent Keller authorize permission to cut hay on the Crow Reserve without limit as to quantity, and he has been requested to notify settlers of this permission by advertisement.

From another source we learn, that in the event of the progress of the Northern Pacific railroad, the Crows will be undoubtedly removed to the Judith Basin or some point north of the Missouri river; and that the project of creating a Northern Indian Territory north of that river and from the Rocky Mountains to Dakota is now under consideration at Washington. This decided upon, a general Indian removal will take place.

[Husbandman, May 15th.]

The Godfrey Bros., last week, sold their ranch on Birch creek, Smith river valley, to Ira Ingram, together with fifteen head of bucks, for \$1,000. They also sold their flock of 1,000 sheep to the same party for \$4.75 per head, not counting lambs.

Of the thirteen precincts in the county, ten have been heard from on the recent election. It is probable that no election was held at the other precincts. The official vote is as follows:

	DIAMOND.	SPRINGS.
White's Gulch.....	24	1
Cavetown.....	62	
Jimtown.....	33	1
Centerville.....	35	
Round Grove.....	59	4
Spring.....	4	39
Camp Baker.....	5	28
Diamond.....	67	15
Duck Creek.....	12	5
Total.....	301	93

This is about as we stated last week. Confederate precinct voted 17 for Diamond and 1 for the Springs, but the returns failed to show it, the number of votes for each place being left blank.

FORTY-SIXTH CONGRESS.

[Extraordinary Session.]

SENATE.

WASHINGTON, May 16.—The President pro tem laid before the Senate a message from the President of the United States in reply to the resolution of the 7th inst., requesting information relative to the alleged unlawful occupation of the Indian Territory. He transmits a copy of his proclamation and copies of the correspondence and papers on file in the War Department touching this subject.

On motion of Ingalls it was resolved that the Secretary of the Treasury be directed to report to the Senate what amount of legal tender notes has been presented and redeemed in coin since the first of January last, and what amount of coin he considers himself authorized to retain in the treasury to maintain specie resumption.

Consideration was then resumed of the Legislative, Executive and Judicial Appropriation bill.

Eaton, speaking on the Appropriation bill, defended his former assertion: "That this is a confederacy of States. The war did not change the government nor abolish slavery. The Emancipation Proclamation did not free the slaves. It required the independent action of a certain number of sovereign States to work those changes in the government of this confederacy of States. The late struggle was a war of sections, and the present reckless denunciation of Southern men was unwise and wrong. Let the past bury its own dead and go on as brothers." Eaton said he now believed that Webster never called this a confederacy of States, but proceeded to show that Webster regarded it as such. The powers of the constitution were limited by the States that made the constitution.

Blaine wanted to know where the constitution shows that it was made by the States?

Eaton said he would read it presently and all could see. He would tell his friend something more, namely, that the little State of Connecticut or the little State of Delaware has more power on one point in this compact than all the other States combined, because it is an equal factor and it cannot be deprived of its representation without its own consent. True, this is technically, a notion; but the word "national" was purposely excluded from the constitution when proposed in convention and the word "federal" inserted, on the ground that the general government has no powers not delegated to it by the States.

Conkling declared that the late war was not waged by one section against another, but by one section against the Union, waged by a fragment of a party to destroy the national life.

After some further debate and with the understanding that to-morrow's session will be for the consideration of amendments other than political clauses, the Senate adjourned.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

WASHINGTON, May 16.—A resolution was reported from the Committee on Rules by Frye for the appointment of a standing committee to which shall be referred all bills, resolutions, petitions, etc., affecting traffic in alcoholic liquors.

An argument in opposition was made by Fernando Wood, on the ground that under the proposed authority this committee might arrogate to itself powers which did not belong either to it or to Congress, and might under the plea of morality undertake to interfere with the revenue of the government derived from the tax on spirits. He had no objection to having the whole subject referred to a committee.

Garfield advocated the resolution and disposed of the constitutional objection by saying that Congress had exclusive jurisdiction over the District of Columbia, where there were a thousand rum holes under the shadow of the Capitol, and over the Territories, with an area as large as Europe. Congress also had constitutional control of the question in relation to the duty on imported liquors and to the internal revenue on distilled spirits.

The resolution was also advocated by Monroe and opposed by Blount. Knott spoke against the measure, as not only unnecessary but as making a mischievous precedent which might be followed by other sumptuary laws.

The final argument in favor of the resolution was made by Conger, who said he would demand a vote by yeas and nays, so as to have members on record on this subject.

A motion to lay the resolution on the table was made by Blount, which was rejected by 99 to 128. All of the affirmative votes were from the Democratic side. All the Republicans and all the Greenbackers and many Democrats voted "no." The resolution was then agreed to.

Cannon, from the Committee on Appropriations, reported a bill making additional appropriations for service of the Post Office Department for the fiscal years ending June 30, 1879, and June 30, 1880. Ordered printed and recommitted. The bill appropriates \$131,900 for the payment of letter carriers for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1880, and \$25,000 for additional salary of letter carriers for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1879.

The House at 3:15 resumed the consideration of the Warner silver bill.

Mills offered an amendment directing the Secretary of the Treasury to purchase silver bullion and trade dollars with a new issue of greenbacks and to use the resulting silver coin for payment of principal and interest of the public debt.

After a long debate this was rejected by a large majority. A number of other amendments were offered for action to-morrow, and the House adjourned.

STRUGGLES AND SACRIFICES OF EASTERN MONTANA.

Urgent Need of an Increase of Mail Service.

[Avant Courier, 5th.]

Eastern Montana has so long been accustomed to sacrifices and hardships through the negligent, not to say hard treatment of the General Government, that we have become excessively modest in all our requests and demands for favors which, ordinarily, we should feel justly entitled to. In the early days and first settlements of the Territory, after the resolute emigrants and hardy mountaineers had opened up and established a short and direct thoroughfare from the flourishing settlements of the Mississippi and Missouri Valleys to the heart of Montana, and at a time when a steady stream of emigration was pouring into the rich mining camps and agricultural valleys of the Rocky Mountains, the General Government, at the request or demand of a few thousand hostile savages, closed the "front door" to the Territory and surrendered the entire country from the Platte river to the Yellowstone to the undisputed possession of hostile Indians.

The abandonment of Forts Phil Kearney, C. F. Smith and consequently the Powder river route was a severe blow to Montana—one from which she has not fully recovered. From that day to this, we have been comparatively isolated from the world. *** Long years of hardships and patient waiting has taught us to be thankful for small favors and we are reasonably grateful to think that the Government has measurably undone the great wrong that it imposed upon us thirteen years ago. The "front door" has been again thrown open and the direct route to Montana, although not perhaps as free from small raiding parties of Indians as we should wish, is nevertheless reasonably well protected by military posts and United States troops. The Northern Pacific railroad, too, where surveying parties, six years ago, were by open hostilities prevented from running the line or locating the road, is now progressing towards the Yellowstone, while the country between Bismarck and Bozeman is rapidly settling up with permanent and enterprising farmers, stock raisers and traders. Eastern Montana is now rapidly growing in population and in business importance, and it has certainly already assumed such importance that we have a right to ask and expect daily United States mail service from Bismarck or the terminus of the Northern Pacific railroad to Bozeman.

True, we have already a daily mail into the Territory, but it is only by that indirect and circuitous route that was rendered a necessity when the Powder river route was abandoned to the Indians. A route that runs directly west nearly 1,500 miles, thence north 400 miles, thence east 300 miles in order to reach Bozeman—a route extending 2,000 miles from the Missouri river, while the Tongue river route is little more than one-fourth the distance to Bozeman, from where the present terminus of the Northern Pacific intersects the same river. A daily mail from Bismarck is not only a necessity for Bozeman, but it is equally so for posts between Bismarck and Bozeman; and it appears to us that if the Postmaster-General's attention was but called to the importance of this increase of service in connection with the facts to which we have alluded in this article, he would not hesitate to order its establishment without delay.

In asking for the establishment of daily mail service, via the Tongue river route, it may be urged that it is not only by far the shortest, most direct and natural one from the settlements on the Missouri river, having direct railroad and telegraph connection with the East, but Montana has become so intimately connected commercially and socially with Minnesota and Dakota that her interests are largely identical with theirs. St. Paul is Montana's commercial emporium. The Northern Pacific is emphatically our railroad, and notwithstanding the fact that for years its terminus has been, through a combination of unfortunate circumstances, kept at a point several hundred miles from the commercial centres of our Territory, the bulk of our freights have been shipped by this road to Bismarck and thence via the Missouri and Yellowstone river.

It is due to the entire Territory, but especially to the eastern portion whose settlements now extend to the eastern boundary and with commendable energy and enterprise are pushing out into our sister Territory on the east, as if to encourage and welcome the Northern Pacific extension to the Yellowstone, that we should have a daily mail. It is due—yes, a necessity for the military garrisons at Forts Stephenson, Buford, Keogh, Custer and Ellis that the present tri-weekly service should be increased to daily. It is due to the commercial interests of Montana as well as of Minnesota with whom we are so intimately connected and closely identified in all our commercial relations, that daily mail service should be established; and last, it is due to that great enterprise of national importance—the Northern Pacific Railroad—for the General Government to bestow a reasonable share of patronage upon that road, especially when it would prove advantageous both to the Government and the people to do so. By all means let us have this necessary increase of service by the Yellowstone route.

"HEAP BAD GUN."

A Ree's Experience With a White Man's Rifle.

[From the Bismarck Tribune.]

A. H. Gerard, a Montana hunter and trapper, reports a rather lively scene with a Ree Indian, Thursday night. Gerard came ashore about six miles above Bismarck to cook his supper, leaving his Winchester rifle in his skiff. In a few minutes he heard a report, a yell, and the exclamation, "A heap bad!" and running to the boat he found a felonious Ree buck rolling on the grass and cursing the God who made him.

The savage had attempted to steal the gun, grabbing it by the muzzle, when Divine Providence gave an extra jerk at the trigger, causing the gun to go off. The ball entered the red-skin's knee and ranging upward to the thigh, what Mr. Gerard thinks to be a mortal wound. The Ree had a squaw with him, who gave the plausible excuse that they thought no one owned the gun. She called four bucks and three squaws out from the camp in the neighborhood, and the outfit straightway entered upon the manufacture of medicine.—*Bismarck Times.*