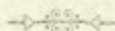

DAKOTA:

The

Observations of a Tenderfoot



1884

TO THE PUBLIC.

THE writer of this little volume came to Dakota less than one year ago from the state of Tennessee nursing and fondling all the skepticism that so often characterizes and distinguishes the tenderfoot on his first arrival in the territory. He has become sufficiently satisfied with the country and its people to resolve to make the land of No. 1 Hard his future earthly habitation without the usual stipulation that, when dead, his body shall be carted back to the old homestead in the hills. The following pages represent truthfully his unbiased and unbought opinion of persons and places and publish his observations and impressions arrived at without fear, favor, affection or recompense, of a vast domain of America's broadest and richest fields, that must be seen to remove the doubts of the unbeliever.

The object of this publication is to avoid, separate and personal replies to hundreds of letters of inquiry recieved by the writer from friends in the East and South relative to the territory and its opportunities, and at the same time give impartial and unprejudiced information of a character intended to answer every question of the half willing, almost persuaded immigrant. In conclusion the reader should bear in mind that this is not the publication of a railroad company or a townsite company having "an axe to grind," but the honest opinion of one who has no financial interest in any of the enterprises favorably mentioned.

Respectfully,

J. E. Dyer.



DAKOTA is the largest and most important Territory of the Union. It is larger than the states of Alabama, Tennessee and Virginia, or the aggregate of square miles comprising the states of Indiana, Ohio, West Virginia and Pennsylvania, and is almost as large as the New England states combined. It is thirty thousand square miles, or nearly twenty million acres larger than all Great Britain and Ireland.

The Territory of Dakota contains one-hundred and fifty thousand nine hundred and thirty-two (150,932) square miles, and is bounded on the south by Nebraska, by Wyoming and Montana on the west, the British Possessions on the north, and by Iowa and Minnesota on the east.

Its extreme northern latitude is represented in the 49th Parallel and is one hundred miles north of the northern boundary of Maine, and about two hundred and fifty miles north of Montreal.

It is nearly four hundred and fifty miles from north to south and about three hundred and sixty-nine miles from east to west.

Among the states only Texas and California have a larger area and the great empire state of New York with the combined area of New Jersey and Vermont does not equal this vast territory in size.

According to the Dakota Outlook, the first settlement of Dakota by white men was in 1812, where a few of the Scotchmen who composed the Assiniboine Colony of Lord Selkirk, settled at or near where Pembina now is. These loyal subjects of the British crown were not a little annoyed, years after, to find that they had been tilling the soil and breathing the air of the land presided over by Uncle Sam's "bird o' freedom," and most of them moved northward.

It does not appear to be definitely known when the first settlers came into South Dakota. The party of Lewis and Clarke (1803-6) were the first white men to explore the Missouri river to its source, and the report of the expedition, published in 1814, probably gave the first information of Dakota. But the extreme cold and other hardships which the explorers encountered were not such as to make this land inviting. While the course of empire took its westward flight, Minnesota, Iowa, Nebraska, Kansas and Colorado became the promised land of the eastern emigrants. Dakota was considered a part of the great American Desert, a land of barren sands in summer, and of snow and frosts in winter.

Sometime, however, about the year 1850, a few hardy adventurers settled in Dakota, and their magnificent crops of wheat bore unmistakable evi-

dence that this was, indeed, a goodly land. Their reports caused others to come, and by the year 1858 thriving settlements had been made along the Missouri at Elk Point, Vermillion, Yankton and other places, and at different points along the Big Sioux. These settlements were upon Indian land, which was finally ceded in the spring of 1858.

During the next two or three years a large number of settlers came in, and the people began to move for the formation of the Territory of Dakota. In these early days the citizens of Sioux Falls were no less energetic and enterprising than they are now. They not only discussed the matter, but proceeded to organize a provisional government, choosing also a full list of territorial officers.

This was during the latter part of 1859. On the 8th of November of the same year there was held at Yankton a meeting, the object of which was to petition Congress to organize the territory. A similar meeting was held at Vermillion on the day following. The organization was not accomplished, however, until February, 1861, and the approval of the Organic Act on March 2d was one of the last official acts of President Buchanan. President Lincoln completed the organization by appointing the territorial officers. William Payne, the first governor, entered upon the discharge of his official duties May 27, 1861. A census showed the population to be 1,786.

On September 16th, there occurred the first election, at which Capt. J. B. S. Todd was elected delegate to Congress.

The first legislative assembly met on the 17th of March, 1862 and adopted a full code of laws.

In 1870, the census showed a population of 14,181, of whom 12,887 were white. This was a small gain for ten years; but little was as yet known of the natural resources of Dakota.

Up to this time two-thirds of the entire population of the territory lived in the counties of Union, Clay and Yankton.

A gradual increase continued until 1875, when the Dakota boom may be said to have begun. At this time gold was discovered in the Black Hills, and almost all the papers in the country published wonderful stories of the precious yellow nuggets that were found there. Adventurers flocked in from every direction. Not only did they find gold, but they found, also, that there were awaiting cultivation millions of acres of the very best of land, and that the country was one of the most healthful in the world. While thousands passed on to the Hills many stopped on this side of the Missouri. Many more, attracted by the marvelous stories of the golden wheat fields, crowded into Northern Dakota. In that section, where in 1870 there could not be found one thousand white faces, there are to-day one hundred thousand people, the assessed value of whose property last year was thirty-seven million dollars. South Dakota has nearly a quarter million of people, whose property assessed on a scale much lower than that of North Dakota, is over thirty-two millions in valuation.

Rivers, Lakes and Valleys.

IT seems fitting that this vast domain should give magnanimous support to the largest tributary of the great Mississippi river,—“The Father of Waters.” Hence the Missouri river drains a large portion of the territory. It enters the territory near Fort Buford in Allred county. Following a serpentine course, though in the main, southeast, crosses the territory diagonally to Niobrara, Bon Homme county, and from there to Sioux City, Iowa, forming the south boundary line of Dakota. Thus entering the territory near the northwest corner and passing out at the extreme southeast corner.

The Missouri is navigable as far as Fort Benton, Montana, probably eighteen hundred miles above the south boundary line of Dakota, thus furnishing transportation facilities from Pittsburg, Pa., or New Orleans, La., a distance in the aggregate of nearly or quite, five thousand miles.

Numerous streams of more or less importance flow into the Missouri in Dakota. One of the important rivers feeding the Missouri is the James, commonly known as the “Jim,” and sometimes called the Dakota River. It comes to notice first in Wells or Foster counties and flows very crookedly in a southerly direction to its junction with the Missouri near Yankton, passing through the counties of Foster, Stuttsman, Lamoure, Dickey, Brown, Spink, Beadle, Sanborn, Davison, Hanson, Hutchison and Yankton. It furnishes some very fine water power, which is fairly utilized for milling purposes.

The Big Sioux river heads in central Dakota, and in its meanderings to join the Missouri at a point a few miles north of Sioux City, flows through the eastern portion of the territory. On account, to some extent, of the many falls it is not navigable, but these very obstacles to navigation furnishes in a large degree the ready means for the accumulation of comfortable fortunes, being the support of many manufactories.

The Vermillion river in southeast Dakota is a small tributary to the Missouri, emptying into it between Sioux City and Yankton.

In addition to the rivers above mentioned, there is quite a number of small and shallow streams generally known as rivers, but only merit the dignified appellation once or twice a year, when they are taxed to their full capacity to furnish immediate drainage to the respective vicinities

through which they pass. Among these are the Cannonball, the Grand, the Little Missouri, Big Cheyenne, Heart, White, Moreau and Maple.

The peculiarities in the Dakota streams is exhibited in the northern water courses. The Red river of the north, rises in Minnesota and flows northward, emptying into Lake Winnipeg. It is navigable to Fargo. It is narrow and very crooked—little wider than a canal. It furnishes transportation and drainage to the great Red River Valley, and is supported and replenished by the Sheyenne, Pembina, Salt, Goose, Tongue Park and Turtle rivers.

The Mouse (sometimes called the Souris) river is a British-American production, entering this territory near the centre of the north boundary line. It flows south seventy-five or eighty miles, makes a graceful curve and triumphantly returns to the land of its beginning.

There are many large and beautiful lakes in Dakota, dotting at irregular intervals the surface of the broad and far-reaching prairies.

The largest of these is Devils Lake, located in the northern part of the territory. It is a saltish body of water, probably fifty miles long and fifteen miles wide in the extreme. The surrounding country is very desirable and the scenery said to be grand. Steamboats for pleasure and commerce regularly ply its waters. The Devils Lake region is fast becoming populated.

Big Stone and Traverse lakes are near the centre of the eastern boundary of Dakota in Roberts county, and are fine bodies of fresh water, abounding in several excellent varieties of game fish. By the side of Lake Traverse is the Sisseton and Wahpeton Indian Reservation and military post.

Blue Lake is a body of water of goodly size in Day county, one of the finest counties in the territory.

Willow Lake, covering nearly three square miles, Lake Thompson covering nearly ten square miles, and Spirit Lake nearly as large are all in Kingsbury county in the midst of a magnificent region and destined to be a great resort.

The lakes and rivers all abound in splendid varieties of fish for table use.

The Red River Valley is the largest and most important valley in Dakota, and doubtless has the advantage of more advertising, than any other portion of the territory. It embraces more than fifty thousand square miles, over eighty per cent of which is reputed the finest farming lands on the continent, being especially adapted to raising cereals and to stock farming. Wheat, oats, rye, barley and flax are raised in the Red River Valley with large profit and immense crops. Wheat, however, is the principle product and the superior quality of the berry has secured for the crops grown in this locality a new grade of excellence, to-wit: "Extra No. 1 Hard." The total production of wheat in the Red River Valley for the season of 1883 is placed at more than ten (10) millions of bushels, eighty-five per cent of which is classed in the above new grade, and commands in the markets of the world ten to fifteen per cent higher prices than other good grades of wheat. Of course the yield above mentioned is comparatively small to the

whole capacity of the valley, when entirely and thoroughly cultivated. The valley is yet in its infancy as regards development and possibilities. It has been less than a dozen years since this famous country was an Indian reservation and the rich and productive lands since developed were then regarded as valueless,—an alkali desert; a barren and desolate expanse of arid prairie.

The James River Valley lies about midway between the Red river and the Missouri, embracing a region of thirty to forty miles in width and probably more than two hundred miles in length. It is particularly well adapted to agriculture and stock growing, being blessed with a perpetual supply of fresh and pure water, amply sufficient for all purposes required. The surface of the country is rolling, just enough for thorough drainage, and security from overflow. The soil is rich and very productive of wheat and other small grain. There are no swamps or marshes to breed malarial diseases. There is an abundance of native grasses, that grow luxuriantly, furnishing excellent grazing during summer, and immense supplies of hay for winter feed.

"The Upper James River Valley" is the name of a little pamphlet, creditable and authentic, published last year by the board of trade of Jamestown, giving reliable information in regard to this section.

The Shyenne, Maple and Broad Valleys are smaller in area, possessing all the advantages of soil, water and grasses characteristic of the larger valleys and adapted to production of all the cereals. The ordinary grasses grow profusely everywhere, rich in nutrition.

Nearly all of that portion of the territory lying east of the Missouri river is rolling prairie land, that is sufficiently undulating to engineer its own drainage. At intervals there are ranges of small sand hills, some of them reaching an elevation of probably seventy-five to one hundred feet, called coteaus. The streams flow southward, except in the northeast portion of the territory, where they all flow northwardly. West of the Missouri river the surface is very broken and hilly, making numbers of fine fertile valleys, between the hills and along the water courses. The streams generally flow to the east.

In the southwest corner of Dakota there are large ranges of mountains densely covered with timber—mostly pine, and are known as the Black Hills—the famous gold region. These hills rise to an altitude of four to five thousand feet above the sea. In the north of the territory and extending largely into Manitoba are the Turtle Mountains, covering a large area.



GOVERNMENT.

DAKOTA, like all the other territories, is governed by the United States. The governor, chief justice and associate justices of the supreme court, U. S. marshal, attorney and surveyor general are appointed and paid by the general government; while the territorial treasurer, auditor, superintendent of public instruction, and the officers of the penal, charitable and educational institutions are appointed by the governor.

The legislative power is vested in a legislative assembly of two branches. The council (senate) has twelve members, and the House of Representatives twenty-four. The legislative assembly meets biennially, and its session is limited to sixty days. All the laws passed are subject to a revision by Congress, a power, which the latter, however, does not often exercise.

The people elect their delegate to Congress, and of course, their county officers, except when a county is first organized, in which case the governor appoints three commissioners, who in turn appoint the remaining county officers.

The county government is in the hands of five commissioners.

There are four judicial districts, though the second and fourth are one for United States cases. The place of holding the U. S. district court for the first district is at Deadwood, second at Yankton, third at Fargo. The district courts for the various counties at their respective county seats. Besides the counties have probate courts and courts of justices of the peace.

The supreme court meets at Yankton twice a year.

The present officers of the territory with their respective salaries and addresses are as follows:

Governor—N. G. Ordway, Bismarck, \$2,600.

Secretary—James H. Teller, Yankton, \$1,800 and fees.

Treasurer—W. H. McVay, Yankton, \$2,000.

Auditor—Geo. L. Ordway, Bismarck, \$1,000 and fees not to exceed \$3,000 in all.

Superintendent of Public Instruction—Wm. H. Beadle, Yankton, \$1,500.

Assistant Superintendent Public Instruction—E. A. Healy, Pembina, \$1,000.

Chief Justice—Alonzo J. Edgerton, Yankton, \$3,000.

Associate Justice, First District—William E. Church, Deadwood, \$3,000.

Associate Justice, Third District—S. A. Hudson, Fargo, \$3,000.

Associate Justice, Fourth District—C. S. Palmer, \$3,000.

U. S. Marshal—Harrison Allen, Fargo. Fees.

U. S. Attorney—Hugh J. Campbell, Yankton, Fees.

Assistant U. S. Attorney,—John C. Murphy, Yankton, \$1,500.

U. S. Surveyor-General—Cortez Fessenden, Huron, \$2,500.

Delegate in Congress—John B. Raymond, Fargo, \$5,000.

Deputy Revenue Collectors—John P. Dennis, Yankton; I. E. West, Fargo.

District Attorneys—First District, A. J. Plowman, Deadwood; Second E. G. Smith, Yankton; Third, W. F. Ball, Fargo; Fourth, J. W. Carter, Canton.

The territory has no bonded debt or other obligations on the market, and I am informed that the organic law of the territory prohibits such liabilities.



RESOURCES.

In the report of Prof. Denton, of Massachusetts, a distinguished geologist and expert agricultural chemist, after having made a careful examination and study of the country in the vicinity of the Northern Pacific R. R. in North Dakota, we find the following opinion, and reproduce it on account of the high professional character of the gentleman and the reliability of the opinion. He says:

"When I first heard of the Northern Pacific Railroad it seemed as likely to be made as profitable as a road to China through the frigid zone. But after passing over the line" (then built to a point near the western boundary of Dakota) "and examining the soil and crops in its vicinity, I find my idea of the richness of the soil and adaptability of country to man's development in advance of the most extravagant statements. It would be hard to find as large a connected body of good land elsewhere on this continent, where the best food of man can be as readily produced, as that which exists within the boundaries of Dakota, and through the heart of which lies the Northern Pacific railroad."

"The conditions which establish the inherent definite superiority of the northern wheat belt over the other wheat lands of the United States are:

1st. The extraordinary proportion of the best elements of soil which enter into the composition of the cereal grains.

2d. The more regular uniform and reliable conditions of seasonable climate which promote the growth and perfect maturing of the cereals.

These propositions are well maintained by agricultural chemistry and comparative meteorological data, but what is better, they are already sufficiently proved by the test of farming operations. They do not depend on speculation, but belong to the facts of experience. The men who go there to engage in farming, relying on these well-ascertained facts, will not be disappointed. The cultivation of the soil by settlers has progressed for a longer time and to a much greater extent in the Red River Valley than on the uplands west; but for the past few years it has been spreading westward, has begun to well occupy the first upland counties, is scattered all the way along the Northern Pacific to the Missouri river, is commenced in Morton county, beyond the Missouri, and has been undertaken on the Heart river, in Stark county, 56 miles from the western boundary. The principle crop, and generally the only crop, raised for shipment has been wheat. The average production per acre for the entire country has not been less than 18 bushels, and would be more fairly stated at 20 bushels, considering the facts of inefficient culture, "sod wheat," etc. The average

yield per acre varies from 16 to 25 bushels in the Red River Valley, and from 16 to 30 on the uplands west. These are very large averages of wheat production, much exceeding, throughout the series of years comprised, the average of any other of the wheat growing countries of the West. This fact of exceptionally large average yield per acre has, more than anything else, created the impression of luxuriance of growth. The stand of the wheat is not, however, as has been stated, more than commonly dense, and the stalk has not grown uncommonly tall, but the heads of wheat fill long and full, and the grain is plump and remarkably solid. The wheat is exported from the territory, superior No. 1 Spring, and quoted higher in price, has acquired in the market a new designation peculiar to itself, that is, No. 1 Hard."

According to this very authentic and valuable opinion of the soil of the territory the most unlimited prosperity of the Dakotans has just begun.

In the Black Hills gold, silver, tin, copper, coal and salt abound in paying quantities. Notwithstanding the fact that the vast mineral deposits have barely come into notice and mining has been only begun, Dakota ranks third among the gold-producing states of the Union.

The Homestake mining company of Black Hills declared in December last, a dividend of twenty-five thousand (\$25,000) dollars for that month, and five hundred and twenty-five thousand \$(525,000) dollars for the whole year.

The De Smet mine paid for December a dividend of twenty thousand (\$20,000) dollars and for the year one hundred and twenty thousand (\$120,000) dollars. Since its organization the Homestake company has paid \$2,292,500 in dividends; the Deadwood Terra, \$1,250,000; the De Smet, \$720,000.

In the different portions of the territory large ledges of hard red quartzite has been found and extensively quarried and shipped for building purposes and street paving. Being a very hard rock—though easily worked is admirably adapted to such purposes.

Large quarries of chalk rock have been developed at Yankton and other points in the territory, which answers well for the purposes of building.

Pine timber of large growth and in plenteous quantities is found in the Black Hills. Oak and other hard woods are also found there. Timber of many varieties is also found in the range of Turtle Mountains in the north of the territory. The various streams throughout the territory are bordered with small strips of timber, principally willow, cottonwood, elm and oak. The successful cultivation of forests has been clearly demonstrated as being practical and by no means a slow method of useful ornamentation. The Valley City Times says:

The experiments of the Northern Pacific in tree planting are satisfactory to the company and very encouraging to the settler. Reports from this department show that cottonwood slips planted last year are now eight feet in height, and box elders have grown three feet from the seed during the season. These are within the reach of all, and we need not—unless we will it to be so—be long without shelter, fuel or fencing all over the territory. Cottonwood will grow an inch in diameter every year, and in five years the slip fence poles can be cut five inches in diameter.

It has also been conclusively demonstrated that good and durable lumber for all ordinary building purposes can be manufactured from straw. Think

of the millions of tons of straw burned in Dakota. The Republican says on the subject:

It will not be long before the vast straw product of Dakota, which is now almost utterly worthless, will be utilized in the manufacture of the very best and most useful kind of lumber. Manufacturing establishments for the purpose of making straw lumber will be built up all over Dakota. Recent experiments have demonstrated that a durable and substantial lumber can be made with straw as the main ingredient. It is to be hoped that manufactories for the making of this kind of lumber will soon be established here and at other points throughout the North. They would solve the lumber problem, and afford our town builders and settlers on the prairies cheap material for the erection of houses.

Speaking of timber culture in Dakota the "Outlook" makes the following pungent remarks:

Dakota for the most part is destitute of trees. Some eastern papers not liking the loss of so many people, publish many things about Dakota which are not true, and among others, that trees will not grow here. But timber culture is no longer an experiment. Dakota will, before long, be a land of groves, forests and shrubbery. There is no land where tree-planting brings surer results. Look at the rapid growth made by young elms, white ash, box elder, cottonwood, catalpa and black walnut, wherever they have been planted and cared for. A grove of black walnut will bear nuts in six or eight years from the seed, and will then be a joy forever.

While the great mass of our farmers are slow to realize the great profit—though it be several years in the future—there is in tree culture, many have gone into the matter in the right spirit. We find in an exchange the experience of a Grant county farmer, whose name was not given. He planted ten acres in trees ten years ago, and this is the result: "Nothing was done during the first five years of any account, except to keep the grass out with a horse and cultivator. At the end of the fifth year his cultivation of the trees was discontinued as they were so thick that they shaded the ground until no grass would grow among them. At the end of the sixth and seventh years, to thin out the trees, he sold wood and poles for \$200; during the eighth year he thinned out and sold for \$200; the ninth year he thinned out and sold for \$500; at the beginning of the eleventh year he puts a cash value on the remaining timber of \$2,000, though he refuses to take that for it, making a sum total of \$3,200 from only ten acres, or \$32 per year for each acre for the ten years. Besides the above estimate he cut all of his own firewood from there during the last five years, upon which he does not put any estimate. He kept three fires all through the winter, and one the balance of the year. He says this timber has raised the price of the balance of 160 acres at least five dollars an acre. We must remember that these trees are still growing and increasing in value."

A crop of grain is a profit to-day, but ten or twenty acres of trees will pay much better in the long run. Every farmer should remember this and act accordingly.

The question of fuel is at present of more importance to the people of Dakota than any other matter and it seems that Providence has alrerdy kindly supplied to some extent the necessary article. Lignite coal has been discovered in several counties and at some points is being rapidly mined and shipped for fuel. The veins are mostly large and easily worked. Near Medora on the Little Missouri river an immense vein of this coal has been discovered on the ranche of Ferris & Merrifield. The vein is eighteen feet thick above the river and how deep it runs below the surface of the stream is a matter of conjecture. It appears inexhaustible and of a very much better quality than that now in use.

Large veins of lignite have been found near Bismarck on Apple creek.

The Bismarck Tribune says that about ten miles southeast of Bismarck a Mr. Jones settled upon a claim and while excavating a cellar for his house struck an excellent vein of lignite coal. He completed the excavation, built his house over it, and now when his fires need replenishing he simply goes down in the cellar and picks loose all the coal he needs. In the spring he will open the vein near his house and have an inexhaustible supply of excellent fuel right at his door. A perfect network of veins of this excellent coal seems to underlie this whole country. It crops out on every hand, and is struck by well diggers with great frequency. As a fuel it is superior to wood and is found in such quantities that it will supply the entire country no matter how thickly it may be populated. Its great quantity and the ease with which it can be mined will render it very cheap, and the many localities in which the veins are encountered will bring it right at the doors of every neighborhood in North Dakota.

The uplands of Northern Dakota possess some important natural advantages in which the Red River Valley is in localities deficient. These are a better supply of water of a better quality, and better drainage. Here an abundance of good pure water is obtained by digging a depth of from fifteen to thirty feet. The natural drainage of the undulating uplands is amply sufficient.

Stock raising is destined to be one of the many valuable and profitable resources of Dakota. The nutritious grasses; the dry and invigorating climate; the noticeable absence of all classes of diseases among stock and the facilities for marketing the surplus, are existing facts that will not fail to carry conviction to the minds of all unprejudiced stockmen. The remark that I have frequently heard to the effect that "Dakota is well enough as a grain producing country but stock raising can never be made profitable," is a fallacy, and establishes beyond question the ignorance of the one expressing it. Wet weather and tall grasses are not absolute essentials in stock raising. While the buffalo grass, in places on the upland of the prairie is short it is nevertheless very thick and wonderfully nutritious, and the growth on the lower lands furnishes an abundance of hay. An exchange uses this argument.

The dry climate—the very thing so many object to in a stock country—is one of the most important items in favor of stock raising here. We feel sure that we assert, without a possibility of refutation, that a given amount of hay will carry stock through our Dakota winters in better condition than it will in Iowa, Illinois, Michigan or Wisconsin. Stock will endure almost any amount of bright, dry, cold weather, without injury to their health or keeping qualities. But let one heavy snow, sleet, or cold winter rain strike them, and their backs bow up until they look like deformed dromedaries, and "each particular hair doth stand on the end like quills upon the fretful porcupine." It is true that ours is a dry climate, especially in winter. Our rain comes during the growing season and in the early fall. We have very light snows and no winter rains. The buffalo grass dries up during the fall and—the ground remaining bare and dry during the winter—furnishes nu-

trititious food, which stock is very fond of and seem to prefer to hay, even in midwinter. Build a good shelter for the cattle at night and when the wind blows, they will come out into the bright, dry sunlight of our coldest winter days with sleek, shining coats, plump, healthy bodies, and the keen Dakota appetite common to man and beast. Stock was wintered here last season on wild hay alone, and came out in the spring, after the unusually cold weather in excellent condition. The general condition of stock wintered here was better than we have ever seen it with the care ordinarily given in the states.

A correspondent writing on the subject to the Mandan Pioneer gives his opinion in the following extract:

If the buffalo could thrive here for the centuries that it undoubtedly has, and without protection from the wintry blasts, why is it not reasonable to expect that with proper care cattle and sheep raising could be made to yield large returns? In Montana, where the winters are more severe and the buffalo grass less abundant, hundreds of thousands of dollars are annually made in this one industry. The profits are large, and there need be no fear of competition here with large companies who control the market, as is the case further west. Young men can start in Dakota with a small capital in stock raising and in a few years become independent. A flock of two hundred and fifty sheep, consisting of one-half ewes, will lamb a hundred per cent. the first year if proper care is exercised. The average proper yield of wool per head of year old sheep should be six pounds, and with wool at twenty or twenty-five cents per pound the profit from this source alone would more than pay expenses. The lambs after six months should be worth three dollars each, and should two shearings per year be made, then the revenue is doubled from this source.



PRODUCTS.

DAKOTA is undoubtedly an agricultural region, because there is comparatively no waste lands. There is very little land that cannot be plowed and cultivated, and that will not produce good crops.

Of course the settlements are too new to form an accurate idea of the possibilities of the soil, or even average yields. However, the fact is permanently established that all kinds of grain and the ordinary varieties of vegetables and grasses grow abundantly in all sections of the territory. Corn matures best in South Dakota, the seasons being rather short in the north part of the territory. It is not uncommon to hear of farmers harvesting thirty-five to forty bushels of wheat, fifty to seventy of corn, seventy-five to one hundred of oats and four to five hundred of potatoes from an acre of average land properly cultivated. Stock growing is developing into a very profitable industry, and the farmers are increasing their herds with all possible speed, and it is said realize from twenty-five to fifty per cent. in the business.

The production of minerals is yet in its infancy. Several thousand miners are said to be continually working in the Black Hills, but owing to a lack of transportation facilities and their general isolation,—being two hundred miles away from railroad connections,—their success has been attended with many obstacles and difficulties.

The manufacture of flour and the operation of a few foundries and machine shops is the extent of the manufactures in Dakota.

Gold, wheat, oats, flax, wool, cattle and hogs are the chief exports from the territory. The wheat grown in Northern Dakota is spring wheat and the variety most commonly used for seed is the Scotch fife. The very fact that a large percentage of the wheat grown in each year's crops is graded in the best markets as "No. 1 Hard" is sufficient evidence of the superior excellence of the production. This percentage has run as high as eighty-five in favor of No. 1 Hard, and the grade commands a ten per cent. higher price in the markets than No. 2 spring wheat as graded by the Chicago board. An exchange gives the following information: "The average price received by the producer at the stations along the Northern Pacific R. R. has usually been eighty to ninety cents per bushel. The crop of some seasons

of course brings a higher price—for that of 1881 the farmers obtained an average of from, \$1.10 to \$1.15 per bushel.

As is well known, many very large farms are conducted, consisting of thousands of acres, and are known as the bonanza farms. From the experience on the bonanza farms where all the labor is hired, it is found that a first crop, including breaking, backsetting (second plowing) seed wheat, sowing and harrowing, harvesting, threshing and delivery at granary, costs about eleven dollars per acre and the cost of subsequent crops is about \$8 per acre. Given an average of eighteen bushels to the acre and the cost of a bushel of wheat delivered to market on the bonanza farms does not, after the first year, exceed 45 cents. It is a moderate statement, and not in excess of probable results, to affirm that the emigrant who goes to North Dakota and locates upon a small farm, ought not with common energy and fairly good management, to fail to realize a profit of from 40 to 45 cents a bushel in an ordinarily fruitful year when wheat is worth 85 cents at the local elevator. Or to put the statement in another form: 100 acres in wheat ought, after the first crop, under the average of farming conditions in Northern Dakota, to return a profit of from \$700 to \$800."

As has been stated, wheat is the principal crop. It has in fact been so far almost exclusively the crop-marketed. It will doubtless remain the chief crop for many years. Though of all the cereals the shyest bearer, it commands so much higher price than any other, the cost of transportation is so much less as compared with value, the possibility of over-production in the wheat-growing countries in any year so remote, and its cultivation in Northern Dakota has been so satisfactory, and lucrative indeed, on account of the quality and reliability of the crop, that it will doubtless for years to come allure the attention of the farmers from more general and varied cultivation of their farms and improved lands. It can not of course be claimed that the Northern Dakota wheat lands will never deteriorate and wear out under the unremitting cultivation of wheat. But on precisely similar lands, in the Selkirk settlement of Manitoba, wheat has been grown for thirty years successfully without fertilizers, and the crop is said to still maintain its excellence of quality and large average yield. It is certain that seven or eight years of continuous cropping in Northern Dakota, have not yet anywhere visibly diminished the wheat producing fertility of the fields. So exceeding is the abundance of wheat constituents in the soil. While the wheat crop continues to be of such superior quality and so reliable, it is probable that the allurements of large profits from the "King of the Cereals"—the haste to get rich, which is the ruling propensity of American life—will postpone the day in Northern Dakota and mid-western Minnesota of more economical methods and less extravagance in farming. That waste without restoration will not in time degrade the old wheat fields of Northern Dakota cannot be hoped. But it is certain that by the superabundance of their natural forces they can sustain such a course of extravagance without decline of production for a greater length of time than has been known, or is possible, south of the great Northern Wheat Belt. This proves or asserts nothing in palliation of wasteful practice.

Public economy, on the other hand, demands that a country of such very remarkable excellence in the production of the great staple, wheat, should be carefully preserved from the degradation of soil. But the writer seeks not to advise. His mission is to state the facts as he finds them. The other small cereals, oats, rye, barley, etc., exhibit the same excellence of quality in Northern Dakota as wheat. Oats grow even in relatively larger average quantity to the acre than wheat. The vegetables, potatoes, onions and all the roots are also of remarkable excellence, abundance and size.

The qualities of climate which bear on wheat raising in Northern Dakota, and contribute more regularly, uniformly and efficiently to the growth of the crop than more southerly climates, are, more daily sunshine,—the days, by reason of higher latitude, being longer—less intense heats during the maturing months, fewer injurious caprices of weather at the critical period of growth, and the cool nights which not only favor the crop, but are so desirable to the tillers of the soil after the labors of the day. The wheat crop is harvested in about one hundred days after seeding.



GROWTH.

RECORDING to the United States census of June, 1880, the population of Dakota, in round numbers, was 135,000. Since then no census has been taken, but a careful estimate prepared in July, 1882, by Gen. Beadle, territorial superintendent of public instruction, made the population about 211,000. Without an official count, it is of course impossible to give a correct statement of population, but there has been made for the year 1883 an estimate which is at least approximately correct. It has been prepared from reports made by county assessors and school superintendents, and from other sources. While the figures may, possibly, be overstated for a few counties, they are, doubtless too low for many others. The estimate, compared with that of 1882, is as follows:

Counties.	1882.	1883.
Aurora	1,500	5,000
Barnes	4,000	5,000
Beadle	4,200	8,000
Benson		500
Billings		500
Bon Homme	5,669	6,979
Brookings	6,465	7,500
Brown	5,950	7,500
Brule	2,100	5,000
Burleigh	3,782	6,000
Butte		700
Cass	12,998	26,500
Charles Mix	578	1,500
Clark	1,192	3,500
Clay	5,201	5,500
Codington	5,693	5,500
Custer	1,595	800
Davison	2,512	5,500
Day	700	4,000
Deuel	3,521	2,905
Dickey	700	3,000
Douglas	1,000	2,000
Emmons		500
Edmunds		3,000
Faulk		3,000
Fall River		700

Foster		1,500
Grand Forks	12,496	16,000
Grant	6,190	6,000
Griggs	1,500	3,000
Hamlin	1,193	2,057
Hand	1,400	5,050
Hanson	2,301	3,000
Hughes	1,800	5,000
Hutchinson	7,100	7,400
Hyde		2,000
Jerauld		1,000
Kidder	500	1,000
Kingsbury	3,890	6,000
Lake	3,890	5,000
La Moure	500	1,200
Lawrence	13,248	12,500
Lincoln	6,397	6,000
McCook	3,224	4,500
McLean		500
Mercer		500
Minnehaha	9,752	12,750
Miner	2,883	5,000
Moody	4,815	5,000
Morton	2,000	3,750
Nelson		3,500
Pembina	5,962	9,000
Pennington	2,440	2,200
Potter		500
Ramsey	510	4,000
Ransom	4,300	3,920
Richland	6,597	8,000
Roberts		2,500
Sanborn		3,000
Sargent		1,000
Spink	3,905	6,000
Stark		1,450
Steele		2,500
Stutsman	3,775	5,000
Sully		2,000
Traill	4,965	11,000
Turner	5,620	7,050
Union	7,115	7,500
Walsh	3,080	8,000
Walworth		1,000
Yankton	8,740	9,000
Total	211,359	333,621

If to this a fair estimate be added for the unorganized counties, the total population will not fall much short of 350,000.

ASSESSED VALUATION.

The following table, compiled from the assessment rolls which were returned by the registers of deeds of the different counties to the territorial auditor, will show the assessed valuation of all property in the territory up to May 1st:

Counties.	1883.	1882.
Aurora.....	\$ 550,335	\$ 198,906
Barnes.....	2,216,628	1,630,769
Beadle.....	1,071,493	356,258
Bon Homme.....	1,122,906	788,161
Brookings.....	936,186	926,105
Brown.....	2,265,920	651,129
Brule.....	436,638	193,823
Burleigh.....	3,297,542	2,363,776
Cass.....	6,539,900	4,738,805
Charles Mix.....	78,940	29,847
Clark.....	415,911	110,041
Clay.....	1,106,683	861,793
Codington.....	4,368,791	849,494
Custer.....	379,065	502,916
Davison.....	919,530	413,136
Day.....	280,215	124,528
Deuel.....	597,782	485,154
Dickey.....	264,663	
Douglas.....	199,440	
Grand Forks.....	5,009,584	3,677,631
Grant.....	885,838	813,434
Griggs.....	1,293,735	
Hamlin.....	439,354	286,692
Hand.....	364,474	
Hanson.....	583,023	372,411
Hughes.....	724,532	333,560
Hutchinson.....	881,837	638,985
Kidder.....	601,123	856,771
Kingsbury.....	771,014	466,379
Lake.....	632,428	444,083
La Moure.....	1,418,475	825,659
Lawrence.....	3,738,099	5,141,208
Lincoln.....	1,149,539	1,096,848
McCook.....	528,667	358,699
Minnehaha.....	2,168,544	1,720,066
Miner.....	264,396	164,762
Moody.....	708,943	656,520
Morton.....	1,016,265	573,874
Nelson.....	225,263	
Pembina.....	2,771,984	1,524,377
Pennington.....	521,903	527,226
Ramsey.....	271,332	
Ransom.....	1,237,475	671,281
Richland.....	2,638,325	1,825,191
Spink.....	2,041,995	624,352
Stark.....	240,228	
Steele.....	235,012	
Stutsman.....	2,907,667	1,705,645
Sully.....	70,271	
Traill.....	2,134,366	2,273,105
Turner.....	977,468	872,522
Union.....	1,124,257	848,932
Walsh.....	2,701,253	1,493,995
Yankton.....	1,827,584	1,675,396
Total.....	\$69,155,909	47,701,479
Increase.....	21,454,430	

The assessment roll for the last two years gives the value of different classes of property as follows:

	1883.	1882.
Land.....	\$32,518,402	\$23,225,033
Town lots.....	15,177,254	8,175,669
Merchandise.....	3,530,953	2,378,565
Manufactures.....	227,546	47,995
Horses.....	4,882,242	3,258,691
Mules.....	621,214	305,112
Cattle.....	3,367,072	2,266,462
Sheep.....	191,778	152,773
Swine.....	212,233	126,233
Carriages (and wagons).....	1,677,620	639,359
Moneys and credits.....	1,353,752	902,847
Household furniture.....	1,161,402	98,063
Stocks and shares.....	437,010	585,334
All other property.....	3,986,326	5,049,341
Total.....	\$69,155,909	\$47,701,479

NUMBER OF VOTES.

Total number of votes in 1861.....	585
“ 1862.....	458
“ 1864.....	607
“ 1866.....	743
“ 1868.....	3870
“ 1870.....	3227
“ 1872.....	3733
“ 1874.....	6788
“ 1876.....	8514
“ 1878.....	17953
“ 1880.....	28474
“ 1882.....	47185

The total valuation for the last four years was as follows:

For 1880.....	\$20,750,782
For 1881.....	31,301,818
For 1882.....	47,701,479
For 1883.....	69,155,907

Even these figures, being more than one year old, can only be considered as approximating by no means definitely the actual population and value of Dakota today, as the wonderful percentage of emigration to the Territory indicates.

Below are the figures showing the percentage of growth, increase in population and other civilizing influences.

From a population of 14,180 in 1870 and 135,000 in 1880, the Territory has risen to 250,000 in 1882, and 350,000 in 1883.

In the three years from June 30, 1880, to June 30, 1883, the taxable valuation increased nearly 1,000 per cent. Postal revenue increased nearly 250 per cent.; banking facilities, 1,200 per cent.; churches, 850 per cent.; schools 2,000 per cent.; daily newspapers, 1,500 per cent.; railroad mileage, 400 per cent., and the amount of land taken by settlers, for actual cultivation, nearly 700 per cent. Dakota has more miles of railroad than fourteen of the states and all of the other territories, more daily papers than any one

of the southern states, and more presidential postoffices than any southern state except Texas. The report of the commissioner of the general land office for the year ending June 30, 1883, shows that of all the pre-emptions and other filings and applications to purchase mineral, coal and timber lands made in the United States (63,164) Dakota shows 25,721, or more than one-third. Of all the homestead entries (56,565) Dakota made 22,061. Dakota's aggregate is 47,782, and the next highest is 10,934 filings and entries. The filings and entries represent the number of new people. After deducting all filings (4,417) not pre-emptions, the Dakota total is 43,865, purporting that number of settlers on government land during the year named.

Nineteen states were admitted into the Union with less than 100,000 population, and all but four of these were admitted with less than 80,000 inhabitants, and it is absolutely safe to say that Dakota has to-day, more than 150,000 inhabitants on each side of the 46th parallel. The census of 1880 gave the territory as a whole 135,477 while in the table showing the percentage of increase in population from 1870 to 1880, Dakota is credited with an increase of 853.2 per cent.: Arizona 318.7: Colorado 387.4: Idaho 117.4: Kansas 173.3: Nebraska 267.8: Washington 213.5. No other state or territory reached 100 per cent and a large majority of them fell below fifty. These figures show clearly if they show anything at all, that of all the commonwealths in the United States for the decade from 1870 to 1880, Dakota was chosen as a residing place by over 22 per cent of the entire immigration of the country. The average percentage of increase for each state and territory was 81.3, or less than a tenth of the increase of Dakota. This is a wonderful showing indeed, but it is a well known fact that by far the greater increase in Dakota has been since 1880, and there can be no doubt that the percentage of increase from 1880 to 1884 was fully as great as it was for the decade preceding 1880, as the immigration has been simply wonderful during those three years, and upon this basis Dakota has now in round numbers 400,000 inhabitants, and when we consider the participation of North Dakota in the conditions which stimulated this rapid immigration, it is fair to presume that she possesses at least 180,000 of this amount which would leave South Dakota with 220,000 inhabitants, a population unequalled except by Pennsylvania, Connecticut, Massachusetts, Maryland, South Carolina, Maine, Wisconsin and West Virginia, at the date of entrance into the Union as states.

A gentleman prominently identified with the financial interests of Bloomington, Illinois, is credited with saying recently that not less than 1,000,000 (one million) dollars has been withdrawn in cash from the banks of McLean county for investment in lands in Dakota in the last two years.

The Winona, Minnesota, Republican recently published the following:

It looks as though Dakota was going to receive another big rush of immigration this spring, the tide already having began to flow. For several days past carloads of emigrants with their families, household effects and live stock, have been passing through this city on their way westward. This is the first year that settlers have heeded Mr. Greeley's advice sufficiently to make a start with a full outfit in January. But the world moves.

And this we find in the Minneapolis Journal of recent date.

From present indications emigration to the northwest during the coming season will be the largest in the history of the country. Hard times in the east only tend to force people to seek homes in the west, and an added incentive to emigration to the great northwest is a fact that the public domain is being rapidly exhausted. A heavy emigration this year will result in taking up about all of the public lands in the Northwest of easy access to shipping points on the line of railway. There are thousands of acres of as fertile land lying out of doors yet open, but with a flood of spring emigration those who may follow in ensuing seasons will rustle about arduously and long and then take second and third choice.

The editor of the Lisbon Clipper, published in Ransom county, D. T., has expressed the following:

Emigration is setting in early this spring, already the tenderfoot is abroad in the land, and there are millions more to follow. From all who have visited the east; from eastern exchanges; and the large number of inquiries daily received, we would predict an unprecedented influx of those seeking homes in the golden northwest. Dakota, and especially North Dakota, seems the haven for which the majority are making. The hard times in the east have caused many of the public works to shut down, and the overcrowded centres there are seeking out the place where nature gives forth in abundance, and a livelihood can be gained from mother earth.



DEVELOPMENT.

REV. E. MURRAY has written to a New Hampshire paper in regard to Dakota from which I take the following:

'The Great American Desert' is no more, and the Harpers will have to change their geography if they desire to travel on the line of truth. It rains in Dakota. The Father of us all lets the gentle dewdrops fall on our broad prairies. The great crops of the West are no myth, and 250,000 people have settled in this rapidly developing land. It is a wonderland full of surprises. Cities are built in a few days here, and the noise of the hammer is heard on every hand. The 'rustle' and growth of the West is charming, and after living in it for some time the settled states seem unbearably tame.

There is probably no way of demonstrating a fact that carries with it conviction so promptly and surely as the method of making familiar comparisons. But in my honest efforts to convince my readers of the actual development of Dakota in the last two or three years, I am forced to acknowledge the inaptness or inadequacy of comparisons or parallels. There is no necessity to embellish—no room for exaggeration. The bare, unadorned facts savor with romance, and will probably be read with a degree of allowance if not with a tinge of suspicion. To those who have never witnessed the full and undisturbed effects of a first class Western Boom built upon merit, the observations of even eye witnesses, when related, comes to them very much in the nature of tales of the Arabian Nights.

Think of one boundless expanse of wild, unbroken prairie filling the whole field of vision, the only perceptible boundaries of which are in the verge of the horizon—not a house, nor tree, nor civilized human being. The deer, the antelope, the bison, the wolves, the coyotes and the savage warrior in undisturbed possession of this vast domain. Uninhabited and to all appearances uninhabitable. Such was Dakota only a few years ago. Then think of the rush of a quarter of a million people to secure homes in such a country. Even taxing ones imagination to its utmost tension to con-

ceive of half the truth. Picture to yourself a grand and beautifully rolling prairie, the undulations of which are ever reminding one of the waves of the ocean, with houses, barns and granaries dotting the surface, thickly here and there in every direction. Railroads, the great artery of the world, spanning and reaching across it in a dozen or more different directions, along which the powerful iron horse of commerce goes steaming and plunging at the rate of forty to sixty miles an hour. Beautiful, bustling, busy towns of one hundred to one thousand inhabitants; multitudes of live industrious husbandmen, plowing and seeding, harvesting and threshing, hauling and marketing their thousands of bushels of grain. Instead of the bison large herds of improved and blooded bovines; handsome, fleecy flocks of the very best grades of sheep leisurely cropping the nutritious grasses, where a short time ago, the deer, elk and antelope fed undisturbed; where, instead of the howls of the sneaking coyote and the treacherous wolf, the screams of the wild-cat, and the blood-curdling war-whoop of the "Noble Red Men," the joyful sounds of the implements of industry, in the hands of honest, steady and willing yeomanry is heard on every hand. Wheat fields as large as some of the Eastern Commonwealths, in which may be seen at one and the same time, two hundred self-binding harvesters and from fifteen to twenty steam threshers, belching forth a volume of grain—No. 1. hard—aggregating from twenty to twenty-five thousand bushels per day. This is Dakota in 1884.

A writer in the Northwest has said that so rapid has immigration poured into all sections of the Territory, there has not been, neither can there be, such a thing as the faintest resemblance to the pioneer life of the past. The pioneer of to-day is the "old settler" of to-morrow. The pioneer of to-day in Dakota plants his stakes upon a piece of land that suits him, with no one near. To-morrow the new pioneers overtakes him, surround him, and push on beyond him, leaving him to all appearances in the midst of an old unsettled country. Buildings go up, ploughing begins, wells are dug, villages spring up in a day and cities loom up in a few short weeks, stores, schools, churches, societies and all the comforts of civilized life. The change has been so rapid that the pioneer can hardly believe his senses. He can hardly believe that he has been a pioneer, or that he has been away from the old homestead that he left behind, except that the surface of the ground perhaps, is different, and everything has a new appearance. The pioneer of Dakota, instead of living upon game and coarse corn bread, as did the pioneers of the past, lives upon the fat of the land. The railroad and steamers bring supplies of all kinds, fresh and good, to his very doors, at prices that rival eastern prices for the same class of goods. He can have his canned fruit and vegetables at prices that bring them within the reach of slender purses. Instead of having to hew down forests to make his farm, as did the pioneer of the past, the Dakota pioneer mounts his sulky plow, and with the latest book or newspaper in one hand and the reins in the other, he combines labor with pleasure in a manner that might even captivate the Eastern editor, who writes of blizzards in Dakota and chronicles the latest cyclone that caused his hair to stand on end, and killed off

his neighbors by the score. There being none of the disadvantages, trials, and wants of former pioneer life attendant upon settlement in Dakota, it is no wonder that the thousands now here have come, nor that thousands more equally desirous of sharing in our fertile lands, our delightful climate, are now coming or turning their longing eyes toward this favored land, this land of peace and plenty. The infection is gaining. Not only are the people of the East, of all classes and conditions of life, seized with the desire to come to Dakota, but Eastern railroad corporations threaten to invade the Territory, and strive with our own Northwestern corporations in developing this Territory, the grandest and best of Uncle Sam's domain. The remarkable energy displayed by the railroads in the Territory, in spreading out their lines in new and undeveloped sections, has done much to hasten settlement. Unlike former pioneer days railroads go ahead of civilization, and when the pioneer of to-day desires to appear upon the scene, he has quick-winged steam to take him to the spot he selects for his home, with all the modern conveniences of sleeping and dining coach, and steam to carry the products of his toil to the marts of the East. When we look upon the pioneer life of to-day as contrasted with that of long ago, it seems almost as a dream. The pioneer of to-day, in Dakota has more of the comforts of life, and can enjoy life better, than did those who lived within the confines of civilization of a hundred or less years ago. Thousands who have come will corroborate this assertion, and thousands yet to come will yet learn of its truth.

Indications all point to the largest and most valuable influx to population of Dakota during the season of 1884 that has ever been witnessed in the Northwest. For the purpose of conveying some idea of the rush to this new Eldorado, and the eagerness displayed in locating homes and to show the estimate placed on this rich, virgin soil, I append the following from the Devil's Lake Pioneer Press, one of the ablest and most reliable of Dakota journals. New townships, embracing about one hundred thousand acres of the most fertile and desirable lands in that vicinity, after having been publicly advertised, came into market on a certain day, subject to pre-emption, homestead and tree claim filings. The Press thus graphically describes the way they "got there."

To say that the crowd at the land office Saturday was immense would hardly suffice to qualify a true expression of its proportions. It was huge and "preponderous." As early as three o'clock in the morning there were numbers at the door who stood at their post from that time until 10 o'clock with the thermometer 10 degree below zero awaiting the opening of the door. Everybody was in good humor, puns and jokes were passed along and the hours were comparatively short. Receiver Whipple came down to the door at a little before 10 o'clock, announced to all who had tree claim filings to come forward and present them as they would be taken simultaneous, and when there were more than one in the same section the highest bidder should have the privilege of filing. For at least one half hour, as fast as he could take the filings and swear them, (with a very short so help you God, oath) he was busy taking applications. At 10 o'clock the pressure became so great against the door that the bolts gave away with a thud, and away went the crowd scrambling up the steps, pushing and

crowding until the hall and down to the bottomless step was crammed with an almost suffocating mass of humanity. From 10 a. m. until 4 p. m., without intermission, entries were made, and when the doors closed at 4 p. m. over 48,000 acres were scooped in from the public domain. While on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday there were batches of men and women filing homesteads and pre-emptions, and before Saturday night there will be but a few acres left of the 299,520 that came into the market in this and Grand Forks District, all of which is contiguous to Devils Lake. In a few weeks thousands of acres more will be placed on the market and the grand rush will be repeated.

About the same time Towns 130, 131 and 132, Range 64 and Town 131, Range 58, in the Fargo Land District, were open to filings as above. An exchange says:

The rush to Fargo about the same time was immense. The evening of the date of entry sixty men congregated at the land office, determined to sit up all night to be on hand at the opening of the office in the morning. During the night an organization was affected intended to prevent confusion of the party and keep outsiders in the rear when the office opened in the morning. A number of new comers who had rested all night made a protest against the organization. The officials held that men who had been on watch during the night were entitled to attention first in filing on claims. The outs suggested that all should have a chance to bid for different quarter sections, which was agreed to. Competition of a lively character ensued.

In the rapid development that is continually pushing Dakota to the head-front, railroad building is one of the most powerful motors, and is the strongest evidence of the grand march of civilization, and the people's prosperity. The year 1884 will see more miles of railroad built in the Territory than has ever been built in the Northwest in a similar length of time. Among these roads to be pushed to an early completion I note a line from Lake Traverse in Minnesota, northwest, via Carrington, crossing the N. P. at Sanborn. The James river Valley R. R., from Jamestown to Ordway. The management of the Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul R. R. contemplate extending their line that now ends at Ordway to Bismarck. It is said that the Chicago and Rock Island also propose building a line to Bismarck, the survey of which has already been made. The Fergus Falls & Black Hills branch of the N. P. R. R. will be extended from its present terminus at Milner in Sargent county as far west as Aberdeen, crossing the D. & G. S. R. R. in Sargent or Day counties. The Dakota & Great Southern Ry. will probably be completed from Sioux City, Iowa, north through the Garden of Dakota to Tower City on the N. P. R. R., and possibly through to Grand Forks. Gen. Haupt, the president, has said: "A greater stretch of railroad will be graded on the Dakota and Great Southern line this year than was ever accomplished on any other Northwestern railroad in the same length of time. Grading is to commence as soon as possible at the various points of intersection with the other roads, and work is to be pushed forward in each direction from these points. They are going to have free elevators along that line and allow no monopoly to control them. They propose to make the run from Sioux City to Tower City in twelve hours with passenger trains." A company has recently been organized and a charter obtained to construct a line from Fargo to Deadwood, crossing

the Dakota & Great Southern at Newark, Day Co., and via Detroit, Brown county, crossing the Missouri river below its junction of the Cheyenne, and known as the Fargo, Detroit & Deadwood. The Brown's Valley Division of the St. Paul, Minneapolis & Manitoba will be extended west, crossing the Dakota & Great Southern Ry. at Britton. A company has just been formed of known capitalists at Fargo to construct a trunk line from Duluth, Minn., via Fargo, to the Black Hills country, crossing the D. & G. S. Ry. at Binghampton, known as the Duluth, Fargo & Black Hills R. R. These are some of the roads to be built as early as practicable. Dakota already ranks third in the list of States and Territories in the number of miles of new railroads constructed in the first nine months of 1883. New York leads with 307 miles. Pennsylvania is credited with 296 miles and Dakota with 288 miles.

In her gigantic strides to the highest pinnacle of civilization Dakota has not failed to give to education and religion, the recognition they so justly merit as the list of schools, colleges, universities and churches conclusively demonstrated. The St. Paul Globe, one of the ablest dailies in the Northwest and closely identified with the interests of Dakota says:

If Dakota does not become identified for its educational institutions it will not be from lack of numbers. In the South there is at Yankton the Congregational; at Vermillion, the Dakota University; at Brookings, the Agricultural school; at Madison, the Normal school; at Mitchell and Ordway each a college. In the North there is to be a university at Grand Forks; a Presbyterian college at Jamestown; an agricultural college at Fargo and a half dozen collegiate institutes not definitely located. And when Dakota becomes a state the school lands will become available, which will be used to advance the already excellent public system of the present territory.

Since the above was published the Baptist University of North Dakota has been located at Tower City. The Grand Forks Herald says:

The University of North Dakota has just issued a catalogue containing the course of study and an essay entitled "Intelligence the Basis of Christian Civilization," by D. L. Kiehle, superintendent of public instruction of the State of Minnesota. The university building is now in course of erection, and will be 120x54, and including the basement will be four stories high. The observatory building will be of brick with stone trimmings, and in dimension will be 28x55. Prof. Henry Montgomery, M. D. of the Toronto school of medicine has been elected to the chair of natural sciences and the vice-presidency of the university. The first term will begin Sept. 1884, and instructions will be free in all departments of the university. Further information may be secured by addressing Rev. F. W. Iddings, Grand Forks.

In addition to the public institutions of learning above summarized large, and commodious school buildings containing the latest and most improved school furniture may be seen in every township settled. The school system of the Territory is the result of the best experience of the oldest States, pruned of objectionable features, and new and practical ideas introduced in their stead. These schools are supported by Territorial taxation. One eighteenth of all the lands in the Territory has been reserved with which to create a school fund. This reservation gives each township 1280 acres

of land which in a few years will be worth from \$25 to \$50 per acre, or which if properly leased will bring in a revenue amply sufficient to maintain and support the best graded schools in every township. The law makes the School Township the unit for school purposes. These vary from six to nine miles square and each is an independent municipal corporation for school purposes, under a board of three persons, chosen at an election on the Tuesday before the last Saturday in June, one being elected and one retiring annually. Their titles are Director, Clerk and Treasurer. These townships have the same area and name as the civil townships, and they are distinguished by the words "school" and "civil."

The school board levies all local taxes, locates and builds all school houses employs and pays all school teachers and generally transacts all the school business of the township. Taxes are uniform upon all property in each township, and all schools within each township must be, as near as practicable, of equal terms and advantages. Additional schools must be established as needed. The board can build one or more two room school-houses, and thus partially grade the schools.

When the school census is taken each parent or guardian, or other person having in charge children of school age, selects the school to which he wishes to belong. The board can permit a family to divide between schools, and when more convenient, can provide for their attendance in a school in another township. By vote of the township a more advanced graded school can be established; or two or more townships can join in this. The patrons of each school hold an annual meeting in September, elect a Moderator who holds a year, and who is authorized to purchase fuel for the schools and make needed temporary repairs, to be paid for by the township board. The meeting also represents the needs of its school to the township board.

School revenues are chiefly from local taxes. The law levies a two mill rate, which is collected in each county, and then apportioned among school corporations in proportion to the number of children in each, of school age. To the latter fund are added receipts from liquor licenses and other sources.

There is no vested school fund. Sections 16 and 36 in every township are reserved to create a school fund for the future State. These lands are rapidly increasing in value.

Certificates are issued upon examination by County Superintendents, and are of three grades: for two years, eighteen months and one year, respectively. Besides these, a "probation certificate" is issued to those who come near the third grade, and cannot be issued a second time to the same person. The territorial superintendent may issue a "professional certificate" to graduates of normal schools, and a regular certificate to others of proper learning, ability and experience, who are otherwise specially meritorious. Each is for five years, and he may charge not more than five dollars for each.

School bonds are issued by the districts and school townships to aid in building and furnishing school houses. The laws authorizing them are

strict, and the credit of the school corporations has been well maintained in this respect.

The employment of teachers is wholly in the hands of the local boards. Applicants are referred to county superintendents and to the clerks of the respective school boards.

Boards of education have charge of schools under special acts, nearly the same in terms, in Sioux Falls, Yankton, Vermillion, Fargo, Grand Forks, Jamestown, Bismarck, Egan, Deadwood, Valley Springs, Canton, Brookings, Madison and a few other places.

Examinations of teachers are held in each county upon the first Tuesday of April and last Tuesday of September of each year. The certificate fee is one dollar, which is paid into the county institute fund. The law favors the teachers in the strict contract it requires, and the provisions it makes for them.

Teachers' institutes are liberally provided for both by the territorial and county funds.

In relation to churches I only have before me authentic information concerning the growth and prosperity of the Baptist denomination, which is no doubt a fair showing as regards the development of other denominations in the Territory, and I believe all sects and creeds are represented here. Rev. Edward Ellis, the general missionary of the Baptist churches of Southern Dakota, is authority for the following:

"In Southern Dakota, three years ago, there were thirteen church organizations, now there are about fifty. At that time there were seven meeting houses, now there are about thirty-four, and others in process of erection.

"The membership of the churches of Southern Dakota has doubled the past year, a large number having been added by baptism. Nearly all the churches have been specially favored by a refreshing spiritual growth. During the year the following churches have been dedicated:

"Sioux Falls, property now valued at \$12,000; Montrose, \$1,000; Goodwin, \$1,700; Alexandria, \$2,300; Parker, \$2,724; Watertown, \$3,230; Dell Rapids; \$4,000. The churches soon to be dedicated are Mitchell, costing \$4,000; Columbia, \$2,500; Hurley, \$1,000.

"The churches building and preparing to build are, Centerville, to cost \$2,000; Frederick, \$1,200; Estelline, \$1,000; Huston, \$6,000. Besides these there have been two Scandinavian chapels built, one at Brookings costing \$1,000 and one at Lodi costing \$6,00, and one German church edifice in the James River Valley near Scotland. All the above are a clear gain to the denomination, and there will be small debts only on two of the churches. The total amount invested in meeting houses during the year is about \$35,000.

"In addition to investments in new meeting houses the sum of \$1,100 has been expended in improvements at Brookings, \$400 at Huron, about \$400 at Vermillion, and \$300 at Madison.

Remember this only shows what has been done by one denomination in one section of Dakota.

CLIMATE.

MUCH has been written and said of the "dreadful" climate of the Northwest, and especially Dakota, I remember distinctly that with the resolution to come to Dakota, I experienced an involuntary shiver, and my friends and acquaintances in the South when talking of my future home before my departure, would invariably suggest that we "take something warm." I really felt as if I was going to the North Pole, and would not have been surprised at any time on my journey to the Territory in August, had the train run into a snow bank as large as Missionary Ridge, and heard the conductor announce, "change cars for dog sledges."

But the climate in North Dakota so far as it concerns comfort and salubrity of residence for man is very widely and popularly misunderstood and I would say grossly and maliciously misrepresented. The dominant conditions of climate necessary to sustain a strong and healthy, energetic and progressive population are not lacking in Dakota. To illustrate different effects of climate on the physical energies of men contrast Northern Dakota with the Southern states. The climate of the former stimulates, strengthens and builds up the physical energies of men. The latter weakens, enervates and destroys them. In the Southern climate the disposition and power for manual labor is rendered languid and prostrate. In Dakota they are re-invigorated and re-erected. Under the subtle influences of the climate of the South men do, in spite of their desires incline to pleasure, inaction and repose. In the fresh, pure and bracing atmosphere of Dakota, men are stimulated to action and zestfully seek and seize every opportunity presented for improvement. The Northern or Eastern man who emigrates South firmly resolves to impose into his labors there the spirit of energy, push, and activity so characteristic of Northern and Western life; but almost invariably he discovers himself in a very few years being gradually and surely overcome by the influence of the climate, and eventually resigns himself and the pursuit of his business calling to the same indulgence in sensuous ease and bodily inactivity practiced by his neighbors and to the customs of the people among whom he has located. On the other hand let a Southern man come to Dakota and as soon as he

recovers from his astonishment at the get-up-and-get-pace travelled from early morn till dewy eve by the Dakota Rustler, he rubs his eyes, shakes off his inborn lethargy, the heritage of generations, and with daily increasing alacrity joins the busy and ever industrious throng of honest, happy and healthful seekers for Dakota wealth.

There is in Dakota sometimes very cold weather in winter, and occasionally very warm weather in summer; but it is never cold and damp in winter, nor hot and sultry in summer. The atmosphere is pure and dry.

Rev. E. Murray writes to a New Hampshire paper:

The climate of Dakota is all that could be desired. With a clear, pure, dry and bracing atmosphere, and five sunny days each week, what more could be desired. This springtime of the prairie is all music and beauty. The air is laden with the delicious perfumes of the flowers that dot the rich carpet of green that covers mother earth far as the eye can reach, unless some settler has turned the black sod that looks greasy in its richness. Life is real in the prairies, and all nature is glad. Cattle, horses and sheep never seem so much at home as they do here cropping the fine buffalo grass, or wading the lake-beds or playing upon the romantic looking bluffs. The cattle may be seen on a thousand hills during our summer, and in some places during the winter. The birds make merry music and the meadow-lark enjoys the new land so that a new song or a few notes added to the old ones is piped forth in praise of Dakota. We can boast of our natural scenery. The rolling prairies in this great expanse, in the towering bluffs along the winding rivers, and the deep gulches and canons, are picturesque and grand. The fame of Dakota's minerals has reached around the globe, and the excellence of her cereals and all agricultural products has followed in the wake. The resources of this country are wonderful.

The horizon continually reminds one of the ocean, only that the sun is setting, does not play hop, skip and jump along the waves, but simply and sublimely sets. All new comers admire the beauty of the prairie sunset. There is an infiniteness in every view that seems to inspire one, and after gazing upon the magnificent scenery of Dakota, the soul cannot shrink back to former proportions. Every prospect pleases.

Dr. Newell says in The Cooperstown Courier that his experience in Dakota since last spring fully convinces him that there is no place in the Northwest where so pure an atmosphere, healthy climate and fertile soil can be found as here. While friends in Illinois, Wisconsin, and the western states are suffering with an immense quantity of snow, drifted roads and terrific cold weather, Dakota is enjoying the clear winter weather, good sleighing—with about eight inches of snow, no drifts and everybody is happy and contented.

In a lecture delivered in the Academy of Music, Brooklyn, New York, recently by Hon. I. W. Barnum, he says: "The cold winters are the great bugbear to the people of the East. I would rather be in the clear, exhilarating dry climate of North Dakota at forty below zero than shiver as if the marrow of my bone was freezing in the damp at zero in Brooklyn."

The fact that the winters of Dakota are not so severe as eastern people need to imagine is pretty well established. It is well known that the snow fall in this territory is not nearly as great as in the adjoining state of Minnesota. Sufficient evidence of this is supplied by the many snow blockades experienced in that state. Compare the winter of Dakota

with that of the East. Here in the fall the frost sets in and the weather continues bright, warm and dry. In November we are liable to have a little snow. In December we look for sleighing, which in Northern Dakota we are very rarely disappointed in. Towards Christmas the weather grows colder, the days shorter and the winter is thoroughly set in. It is perfectly dry, continuing through the months of January, February and March, with just snow enough to afford splendid sleighing for the farmer to do his teaming, get up his summers wood, haul his hay and grain to market. It is true that we experience two or three cold snaps and perhaps the thermometer may register as low as 40 degree but this extreme is rarely reached. The much-talked-of blizzards do make us friendly calls semi-occasionally, but they are nothing more or less than a genuine old snow-storm of the East. They last but a day or a night and the sun rises again in the morn in all its majesty shooting his cheery rays through the windows of every Dakota cottage. Seldom if ever do we see a snow-ball made owing to the dryness of the snow; no rains, no thaws, from the time it freezes up till spring when it comes upon us in a night. What do people do in the winter? Why! they are the most leisurely class of people in the world. Nature has well prepared for her foster Dakotans. She has planted her forests, provided her many streams and rivulets which ripple by the very doors of her settlers. A bountiful harvest has been reaped and during the long winter the people live in ease and comfort.

The destructive cyclones that are so terrible in some parts of the West are only read of in Dakota—never experienced. These destructive wind storms are evidently the result of great and peculiar atmospheric disturbances and the region seems to be entirely outside of the belt of such, elsewhere we liable to cyclonic action the fact would have been manifested ere this.

Writing on this subject the editor of the Mandan Pioneer truthfully says:

The happiest persons in the Northwest are those who have emigrated from the Southern States, where fevers and those diseases peculiar to a damp and low-lying country are found. In Dakota their youth returns again, their energies become strengthened, their blood circulates more freely, and they are able to do ten times as much hard work as they did in their old homes, and enjoy sound refreshing sleep. The doctors know where to advertise their patent nostrums, and very rarely are they found in this part of the country, for they know it won't pay to come here. They would find no market for their wares among the people of the Northwest, where the clear, pure, dry atmosphere, possesses more efficacy than all the patent medicines ever invented. Malaria does not and cannot exist, for the conditions are wanting. There are no stagnant pools to create poisonous vapors, and dampness of the atmosphere is a thing unknown.

The pleasant summer weather is thus described by the Grand Forks News:

While the telegraph is bringing us, almost on alternate days, accounts of suffering from the heated term, cyclones, sunstrokes and terrific storms in the eastern and southern States, Dakota is continually enjoying an atmospheric condition, the remembrance of which is a joy forever. Although the mercury during the day is bobbing up and down among the nineties, there is continually a cool and delicious breeze that so tempers the heat

that it is not so oppressive. In the hours of early evening, the Dakota mosquito, that is huge as to size and aggressive as to disposition, like all other animated products of Dakota, in his favorite cover makes his presence perceptibly felt, but he is a tender plant, and by the time it is fairly dark the air has become too cool for him, and he folds his wings, takes a double reef in his bill, curls up his legs, and yields to the somnolent influence of the hour. And such nights for sleep! With a steady, cool breeze supplying unlimited quantities of pure air, every breath of which is a luxury, one soon falls in the natural sleep of childhood, and awakens in the cool, dewy morning perfectly refreshed, and feeling fully competent for the labors of another day. Such is the summer life in the land of the Dakotas, besides which life in the Middle or Eastern States is no more to be compared than is a bob-tailed jack-rabbit to an elephant.

The health producing properties of Dakota atmosphere have attracted the attention of the best physicians in the land, some of whom do not hesitate to strongly recommend the Territory as a health resort. The Chicago News published the following:

At the regular annual meeting of the Chicago Academy of Homeopathic Physicians and Surgeons, a paper was read by Dr. T. C. Duncan on 'Dakota as a Health Resort.'

Premising that the essentials of a health resort are in its sources productive of diversion, deep respiration, and vigorous digestion, the doctor showed that Dakota furnished such in a marked degree, the water, air, and other valuable conditions contributing to the cure of dyspepsia, diseases of the kidneys and bladder, catarrh, bronchitis, and consumption in its early stages, though in its advanced stages the patient should seek a warmer and less bracing air. Asthma is also markedly affected by Dakota air, which, moreover, is more beneficial than that of Colorado, or other elevated regions, in cases of heart disease, complicated by asthma, bronchitis or indigestion. The large amount of soda in the soil makes the wheat of Dakota especially healthful, while from the larger amount of nitrogenous elements the use of this staple supplants the demand for meat.

I append a few extracts from letters written to the Fargo Daily Argus by gentlemen in the East who evidently desire to be back in Dakota. Mr. C. Rentchler writes from

AKRON, Ohio, Feb. 28, 1884.

I take pleasure in writing a few lines to give you my opinion and distinction between Ohio and Dakota. It is now four weeks since my departure from the promised land and golden fields of the Northwest. I find ever since my arrival that there have been continuous rains, which makes everything disagreeable and unpleasant. I found that Dakota is far the most agreeable part of the continent up to the present time; am satisfied that it is the best climate, less sickness, and no damage done in regard to high rivers, as you are aware at the present time of this state. I have convinced many a man of the facts in regards to what could be done in Dakota, and feel safe to say that there will be considerable immigration from this state in the spring. I am satisfied that many will go, to stay, as they are selling all they have and are making arrangements to leave as soon as they possibly can.

The following from a gentleman in Illinois, who is well acquainted with the climate of Dakota:

I believe that a winter or two in Dakota has spoiled me for a residence elsewhere in this country. I can't stand the disagreeable days we have been having here. It is three times worse here with our moist atmosphere and changeable weather than in your dry and sedate clime. Many

of my neighbors are coming to Dakota with me in the early spring to make our permanent homes with you.

F. M. Scofield, of the well known firm of G. S. & F. M. Scofield, the great New York advertising agency, gives the following idea of the difference in Dakota weather and that of New York:

I wish you would not say any more about your beautiful sunshiny weather you have so much of. If you keep it up we fear we shall die of envy. In six weeks we have only seen the sun once until to-day, and then only for a few hours. For days at a time the fog has been so thick that one could hardly see a block away. Every one pants for breath, and the miasma is so thick in the atmosphere that one can lay it off in slices with a pocket knife.

We should like to change for some of your clear, invigorating air, even if it is forty-nine and three-quarter degrees below zero. Anything but New York weather at present. Send along what you can spare.

The editor of the *Sanborn, Dakota, Enterprise* makes the following true comparison of the winters in Dakota and Michigan.

Dakota is now in the heart of winter. Without doubt the coldest portion of the season is past, and according to old-timers, this is a representative winter. Many have been the years spent in old Michigan, and having experienced the cold of both, with the candor of a responsible being we pronounce Dakota winters preferable to any yet seen in that State. The days of sleet and slush, glassy sidewalks heavy atmosphere, rising miasma, lowering clouds; the wet feet, quivering knees, chattering teeth; the hacking cough, pale face, pinched frame; all come with vividness to memory and expel a lingering doubt.

The climate is cold to be sure, but it is a matter of little trouble or additional expense to construct a house and cellar to defy the penetration of frost. There is nothing ventured in the assertion that a smaller number of properly protected cellars have had their contents frozen this winter, with the spirits at one time registering 44 below zero here, than in Michigan during the coldest weather there. The reason is, people build with the cold in view; in that State they are never prepared for the extremes of heat and cold, for every succeeding season outstrips in novelty the one previous. The difference between the two countries is this: Here winter is winter; there, winter is a conglomeration of fall, winter, spring and sometimes summer. Here, cold and invigorating; there, variable and debilitating. Here, ruby cheeks, good appetite and sound lungs; there, chalky faces, nausea and endless pulmonary affections. To our young friend we would therefore say, if you come to Dakota with a determination to succeed, she will prosper you abundantly; and you have our candid opinion, the climate the season through is in every respect superior to that of your native State.

The following extract from a letter dated at Larimore, Dakota, Dec. 6, 1883, addressed to and published in the *Springfield Republican* is a pretty good testimonial to the healing qualities of Dakota atmosphere.

I came into this country four weeks ago, trying it as a health resort, and I have been greatly gratified with the experiment. My body has been strengthened, have gained five and a half pounds and my voice is regaining the power of younger days. Indeed this country is in many respects for weak chests and nervous prostration better than Minnesota. There are about me now some marvelous examples of restorative power. Invalids, consumptives generally, almost exhausted when they reached here, are now active, energetic workers, with a new life thrown into every duty. We are on the same parallel that runs along the extreme northern border of Maine, and of course it is extremely cold; the thermometer has already been eighteen degrees below zero. But the atmosphere is very dry and

exceedingly rare; you walk miles without any fatigue, and step as if lifted up above the earth.

During the past winter I have experienced the pleasantest tingling sensation of an atmosphere forty-six degrees below zero. I went about through the city attending to my business, and suffered no inconvenience, notwithstanding I had come to the Territory a few months before from a climate where but once in my life I have known the temperature to reach zero. I came to the Territory in very poor health; suffering from a severe affection of the nervous system. My health has steadily improved. I have experienced the roughest weather and have enjoyed it like a native. I have driven forty-two miles in a cutter without getting out, when the temperature registered twenty-eight degrees below zero, and suffered less from the effects of the cold than I have in the South when the thermometer indicated fifteen above. When the mercury has been forty-two degrees below, I have seen men with teams hauling wheat into Tower City from a distance of eight to twelve miles in the country. There is something wonderful in the dry, crisp atmosphere of Dakota that enables people to stand it comfortably. A blizzard is most dreadful in name. I have seen the worst of them, and found they were only severe snow storms, such as are met with in all localities where snow falls. There has been no rainfall here since last November up to this writing, April 1st. A majority of the days during that time have been bright, clear sunny days. The greatest depth of snow probably reaches from eight to ten inches, affording excellent sleighing—wheeled vehicles are not used here in winter. The snow is always dry, does not thaw during winter, or ball. The rainfall in Dakota is generally greatest in the months of April, May and June, providentially just at the time necessary to growing crops. The harvesting season is always dry and well adapted to gathering in the countless wealth of abundant harvests.

Ah, Dakotans should be a happy, contented people: The richest soil; the finest location; the most cultured and intelligent class of citizens; the purest and pleasantest atmosphere; regular and prolific seasons; a climate that is never variable but always pleasant; the largest yields of the most valuable products; a natural remedy for every curable ill of life—these are a few of the indisputable existing characteristics of the Territory. It does one good to observe the men, women and children we meet on the streets and highways—perfect specimens of rugged, blooming health. The cheeks bloom, the eyes sparkle and the gait is springy, the head erect and nostrils expanded, breathing a great volume of the life-sustaining atmosphere.

SETTLEMENT.

WHILE my astonishment has been excited almost daily at the growth, enterprise, and advantages of the Territory, I believe my surprise has been greatest as I have learned to know the people who by their intelligence and enterprise have made Dakota's enviable reputation. I know an impression prevails in some parts of the Union that the pioneers of all new States and Territories have been and are yet, a rough, uncouth, illiterate and immoral people unworthy to be classed in any grade of society. Kind reader allow me the pleasure of disabusing your mind of such an impression. With my knowledge of the facts and my observations among the citizens of Dakota I am constrained to assume the other extreme and opine that the population of the Territory thus far represents unmistakably the intelligent, energetic, thrifty and refined element of the best society of the respective States from which they came. The average Dakota citizen has just and meritorious reasons for priding himself on the possession and practice of all the attributes necessary to convince the world of his desire and success in building on this grand Territory a statehood eminently worthy the emulation of some of the oldest States in the Union.

Of course the people of Dakota with its rapidly growing population and its thousands of golden opportunities comprise many classes of settlers and while I insist that a great majority of them are the good citizens I have mentioned there are a few who were failures in their former homes, are failures here, and have the word FAILURE so plainly indicated on their countenances that "he who runs may read it." There are others, too, a very few of them, who for causes entirely within the compass of their own control, and possibly with questionable antecedents, will never succeed. Ignorant and unscrupulous themselves, this class has come to the Golden Northwest, presuming upon the ignorance of the people whom they miscalculate to dupe and deceive. They tarry but a little while. They find the people of Dakota a sharp, wide-awake class and not easily imposed upon. Graduates from some of the best colleges in the land, surrounded with choice and valuable libraries, elegant pianos and organs, tuned to the har-

mony of Home, Sweet Home, may be found in many of the little sod shanties and rough board shacks in every-day's ride across the beautiful prairies. The people are hopeful, contented and happy, winning with grit and perseverance the broad and fertile acres that with proper management will soon "blossom as the rose" and surely raise the owner far above want. If I remember correctly it was Mr. Jacobs the great Sabbath school laborer, that once said, "I really believe God in his Divine wisdom has skimmed the cream off the states and brought it to Dakota." All Europe was sifted to seed New England and all the states in the Union have been sifted for seed good enough to plant Dakota with.

Crasby S. Noyes, editor of The Washington Star, has written a very comprehensive article in regard to the class of men who have located in Dakota and shows that while emigration to the Territory has been entirely without parallel it has surely all the elements of solidity and of permanency. He says:

The same restless, speculative people that raised Chicago bodily out of the mud, and recreated it again and again out of the ashes, and then pushed on further northwest to the Mississippi and leveled the hills and filled up the valleys to make room for St. Paul, with its busy population of 80,000, and as soon as that task was well under way moved a step further north and converted the great falls of St. Anthony into a mill race to make Minneapolis the biggest flour factory in the world, with a duplicate population to that of St. Paul—these are the same "rustlers" that are now over-running Dakota, building up railroad towns, river towns, valley towns, and starting wheat farms, raising grain elevators, and preparing generally to make that Territory fulfill its manifest destiny of supplying the larger part of the 20,000,000 bushels of wheat required annually to keep the Minneapolis mills going. Who can tell what limits to put to the growth of this New Northwest in the next twenty years, with such men to the front?

The term "Rustler" as used above is thus aptly defined by an Englishman:

The term "rustler" implies the highest characteristics that can eulogistically be predicated of man or beast. A "rustler" will not stand still in the snow and be frozen to death; he will not let others pass him and pick the choicest grass; he does not make much noise, but he is always alive to his own interest, and subject to this he is always willing to give a helping hand to anyone who will try to help himself. Yes, sir, if the applicant is a person of quickness and energy; has a good temper and no prejudices; can break a horse and ride it when broken, can help to make a hut, make butter and bake bread; know something about cattle and horses; can improve or amuse his mind on a winter's evening with a good book or a novel, and is not too much addicted to euchre or poker; if he is a "rustler," and warranted sound in wind and mind, he can earn good wages and his grub, till he has found something in which to invest any capital he may find at his disposal; anyhow, such a one will get on first-rate in the Northwest, and don't you forget it.

I feel no hesitation in endorsing and even emphasizing the opinion expressed by a writer in the Inter Ocean relative to the yeomanry of this Territory. We repeat: "There is in progress on this soil at the present time one of the grandest marches of civilization the world has ever seen. The spectacle presented furnishes an interesting study. The movement going forward here has for its impelling agents the strongest individual

forces we have in our society and government. Dakota is not richer in soil than the character and capacity of her citizenship. The best blood in American veins and the best stock of the world are contributing to this unparalleled growth and unexampled development. Dakota is being enriched by an emigration from the Eastern, Middle, Western and even Southern States of a kind and extent without a parallel in the history of this country. It is much a matter of surprise and much more a matter of significance, that the great majority of those who are daily swelling the ranks of the Dakotans are of American birth and parentage. A majority of these Americans who are merely changing their residence from one part of the country to another are young men."

The truth is that Dakota is to be the most prosperous of the States of the Northwest and is to lead in the development of the great wheat basin or belt, toward which the eyes of Europe as well as America are turned.

"My surprise," said a passenger to a reporter in Fargo, "at the class of people I met out here in Dakota is very great. I was prepared to meet a rough, uneducated set of men, and I find them all Easterners of a pronounced type as regards the characteristic energy of that part of the country, and I have so far in my trip come across very few of the genuine loafers that we meet so often on our corners in the East. Every one seems to be busy; I see no discontented men hanging around the stations that we pass through, and it seems as though this single fact ought to endorse the reports that have been circulated in regard to the advantages for men in every walk of life, that this grand Northwest offers to the people of to-day.

E. V. Smalley, editor of the Northwest, says that one thing that recommends the newcomer in the Northwest is the strangeness of his surroundings—the wide, treeless prairie, and the raw, hastily-built town, and the absence of a hundred things which many years of human occupancy brings to the face of the earth, and which are hardly noticed until missed—is the active, cordial social life around him. He finds the people wonderfully bright and sociable, and always ready to invent occasions for mutual diversion. If there is any neighboring feature in the landscape—a hill, a grove or a lake—it is a resort for picnic parties. In the small towns there are reading circles, dancing coteries, and amateur dramatic societies. The larger ones support theatres and concerts well, and attract companies which would not find it profitable to visit places of similar size in the East. People, as a rule, are hospitable and cheerful. There are no social barriers filled by bank accounts or furniture or clothes. As there are few noticeable accumulations of property, men and women are rated in the social scale chiefly by their intelligence and the good qualities which go to help on the community. There is a free field and no favor for all honest effort.

After a few years in a new country, the settlers usually go back to the East, and visit their old homes. They are pretty sure to find the people rather dull and narrow-minded, formal, making much of trifles, and lacking cordiality and what is called "push" out West, and they return to their new habitations on the prairies or in the valleys of the great mid-continental mountain ranges, rejoicing that they are not obliged to live in the East.

Agriculture and its Profits.

WHEN we fairly take into just and proper consideration the conditions which are best conducive to success in farming we can assert beyond the fear of contradiction that Dakota stands pre-eminently in the front rank of all agricultural districts. And there is no new farming country in the United States where wealth may be obtained from the soil with as much ease, so little labor, and as quickly as in Dakota. And the avocation of farming is by no means the only avenue to wealth, but is only an illustration of the possibilities of prosperity in all occupations.

It is not alone the superlative quality of the cereals obtained from production that the above statement depends, but in a larger degree does the proof rest on the superior quality of the grain produced and the reliability of the wheat crops. The Bismarck Tribune says a Dakota farm is like no other on the footstool. It produces more wealth, is easier managed, requires less to manage than a farm in any other country on earth. There are no rocks to clear away, as in the East; no trees to fell, as in the Middle States; no ditches to dig and no irrigation to plan, as in some of the Western States; no drought to fear, as in the Southwest; no floods to dread, as in the rich bottom lands of the lower Mississippi; no levees to build or fertilizers to buy, as in the old agricultural countries, and no past record of failure to hover over and alarm the man who plows and reaps in the great wheat gardens of the Universe. The land that was put in crop eleven years ago is as fertile now as then. Yearly there is no diminution in productive qualities of this unequaled land. The promises of fortunes are always kept in this Mecca to the fortune seekers. Had the searcher for marvelous things in the old time who wholly embarked upon an unknown sea, and, having landed on an unknown coast, bravely pushed into the forest to meet the dame who always waits to be overtaken—had these bold searchers—penetrated to Dakota they would have considered their mission accomplished. There is no need to go beneath the surface for the gold for it lies on top. No great amount of labor is necessary to accumulate great riches in a country where the ground prepared and the seed placed be-

neath it assures the harvest in due time. Dakota farms are a mine of wealth, never failing to those who possess them.

A gentleman whose business pursuits have called him repeatedly to and through North Dakota has written to the Louisville Courier Journal his impressions of the locality in the following plain, terse language:

I have several times visited Dakota's far-famed Red River Valley, and was familiar with that country 100 miles north and 100 miles west of Fargo, and at each visit I have been made to wonder at the immense extent of its most fertile soil, and never did it impress me more forcibly than on this my fifth annual visit to that region. No pen can do justice to Dakota's broad and rich wheat fields. You hear much of the Dalrymple and other large wheat fields, but they can now no longer be distinguished from the country all about them by their harvests. For 150 miles east and west along the Northern Pacific railroad, beginning at Detroit, Minn., about forty miles east of Fargo, and running west beyond Jamestown and for a like distance north and south it may be called one immense wheat field. There are meadow lands and uncultivated lands in this 150 miles square, but they are exceptions and need scarcely to be considered. It is difficult to believe this, and very hard to realize it after seeing it—the acres of wheat in that limit reaching up in such great numbers as to convey only vague ideas to most minds.

A gentleman writing to the Cleveland, Ohio, Leader, commences an elaborate article with this:

In Dakota enterprise breaks the broad prairies with the same freedom that a steamer plows the ocean. Energetic men of even limited means, if in localities of rich soil and railways, make a competency in a few years. In 1879 an acquaintance entered under the pre-emption laws one hundred and sixty acres; raised wheat, and in three years sold the land for \$3,400 profit. A clergyman, tired of the dull routine of eastern watering-places, re-invested in Northern Pacific Railway lands a \$500 bond unfortunately purchased ten years ago of Jay Cooke. To his first purchase he added others such as a limited bank account allowed, occasionally sold and re-invested. Now he estimates the profits of seven vacations in Dakota as follows: Robust health, vigorous sermons, an elegant new church built, pastor and people happy, especially the pastor, who believes his misfortune has resulted in a fortune of \$50,000 in lands.

Editor Anderson of the Daily Independent at Bellaire, Ohio, gives some of his impressions during his recent visit to Dakota in the following:

Dakota has a great fortune. In its immense area it has less waste land than any of the Western or Southern States. I doubt if, leaving out its little lakes, which are not by any means waste land (many of them are beautiful sheets of water), there can be more than one per cent. of the soil that is not tillable and easily tillable; no timber to cut and burn; no stumps or roots to stop the plow and induce profanity; no stones to make culture difficult. A level or gentle rolling surface on which it is a pleasure to either hold the plow or drive, here invites the farmer to stir its rich soil, which, with favoring conditions of moisture and warmth, yields as rich returns as any part of the world. If breaking the surface increases the rainfall here, as it unquestionably has done in Kansas and Nebraska, and the increased humidity of the atmosphere decreases the extremes of temperature, as it certainly will, Dakota will be one of the most richly productive states in the Union. Under very unfavorable circumstances of tillage and adverse season; I see here better potatoes, onions, beets, turnips and squashes than I have seen in Ohio. With better culture and an average season the possibilities of the Territory are hard to over-estimate.

One of the most comprehensive reasons for migration to this Territory is found in the justification plead by an Illinois farmer recently when asked what induced him to sell a good farm in Illinois and leave a comfortable home when he was doing well and come to a comparative new country, he replied:

My farm was too valuable for me to own. I had too much money locked up in the land and improvements to realize anything above a very small per cent. on the investment; so I sold out for \$60 per acre, loaded a car with household goods, another with my teams and farming tools, came on, and got a farm for nothing, twice as large as my old one, and had the money for my old home in Illinois to build a better house here, and buy more stock, and in five years my home here will be worth twice the money that the old place was worth.

Some of the Eastern papers that are antagonistic to the migratory fever which annually seizes upon many of their patrons, never tire of rehearsing everything that goes into print or obtains a rumor detrimental to the Golden Northwest. One of their pet hobbies is the lack of moisture in the soil necessary to produce good crops. Below I give the figures taken from the record of rainfall kept by the United States signal officer at Bismarck for the months of March, April, May and June for the eight years shown. I have been disappointed in obtaining the figures for 1883.

Year.	Inches.
1875.....	14.70
1876.....	13.02
1877.....	10.84
1878.....	13.10
1879.....	11.22
1880.....	9.45
1881.....	7.85
1882.....	11.28

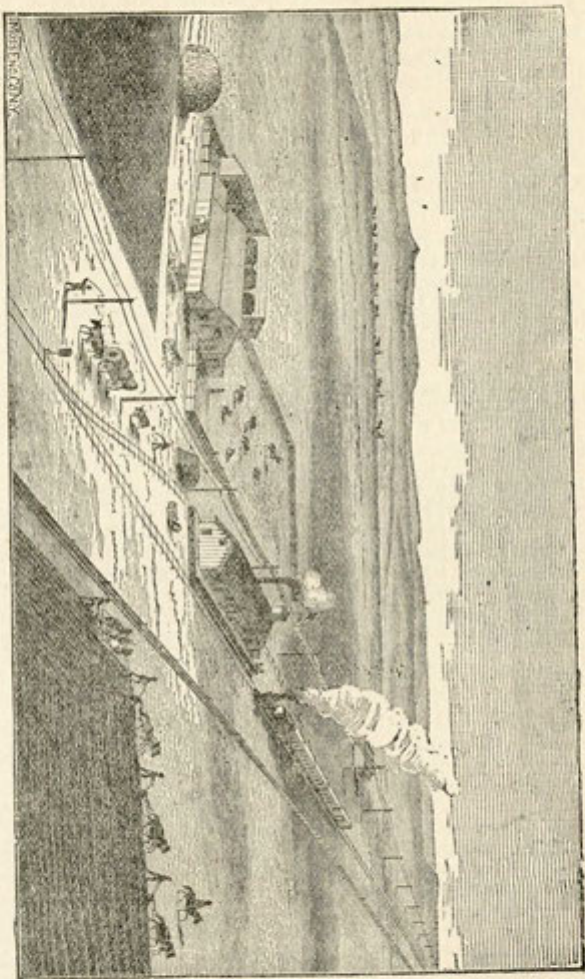
The largest wheat crop raised in the Territory was harvested in one of the dryest seasons.

Below I give some of the comparative results and profits of farming in different portions of Dakota.

William M. Rea, of Fargo, who came to Hope on Friday last to serve papers in the Skal-Fish case, is one of the most successful farmers in Cass county or in the Territory. He has a farm of eight hundred acres, situated on the Red River, two and a half miles from Fargo, all of which is under thorough cultivation. He was one of the first settlers in that section of Dakota, and has remained there ever since, improving and adding to his property. From the government price of land, two dollars and a half per acre, his land has increased in value within the last eleven years until now it will bring one hundred and forty dollars per acre, he having sold forty acres at that price a short time ago. He was recently offered \$72,000 for his farm, but refused it.—Hope Pioneer.

Yesterday a Republican Faber pusher happened to meet S. E. Carter, a gentleman 70 years old, who is engaged in farming 500 acres of land, 20 miles north of this city, near the river. Mr. Carter came to this country nearly four years ago from Ashtubula county, Ohio. He was the man who made the immense cheese which was on exhibition at the Centennial; doubtless many Fargoians saw it at the time. He says the cheese weighed over 4,000 pounds, was five feet in circumference and four feet thick. He owned six cheese factories at the time, and at the several places he "ran up" the curd, and then took it to factory number one, where the several

A DAKOTA WHEAT FARM.



cheeses were ground up and made up into the one. He sold it to Gasdoe & Chupin, at Boston, Mass., and then it was sold at retail at from 40 to 75 cents per pound, within nine hours after it was cut. Three thousand cows supplied the milk for his factories and milk was carried ten miles by the farmers to his place. He is an old acquaintance of Mrs. N. K. Hubbard and of A. C. Batchelor. He has no desire to go back to Ohio, but is content to raise 20 bushels of No. 1 hard wheat to the acre in the Red River valley. This is simply an illustration of the class of farmers who come to this country, and are making it what it is—the garden of the Union.—Fargo Republican.

In 1881 James Holes of this city noticed a single stool of wheat in his oat field; this stool which had sprung from one kernel, consisted of twenty-two stocks headed out. These contained 860 grains. In 1882, 760 of these were planted, and 700 grew, yielding one-fifth of a bushel, or at the rate of forty bushels to the acre. Last spring this wheat was planted and carefully cultivated; the product has just been measured, and is seventeen bushels, an increase of eighty-five fold, and a yield of fifty-six bushels and thirty-two pounds to the acre. Seventeen bushels from a single kernel in three years is good growth even in Dakota. Mr. Holes intends to sow seventeen acres with this grain in the spring, using but one peck to the acre. He believes that by using good seed and carefully tilling the soil Dakotaians can secure an average of from thirty to sixty bushels per acre.—Fargo Argus.

Upon the farm of Jacob Faust, north of Valley City, Dakota, in a field of seventy-eight acres, the yield was 3,130 bushels of No. 1 hard Scotch Fife, machine measure, or a fraction less than twenty-seven bushels per acre. Being machine measure and the wheat of hard variety, the weight will easily bring the yield up to twenty-eight bushels. Fifty acres of the field upon which this grain was raised is new ground, only half of which has been backset. The remainder is old ground.—Valley City Times.

President Wells, of the James River National Bank, has just closed the accounts of his farming operations for 1882 and furnishes us a summary of the results, prefaced by the statement that his farms are small and scattered in Stutsman and La Moure Counties.

Total acreage embraced in his farms 2,720; number of acres cultivated in 1882, 1,087; actual cost to date of the 2,720 acres, including five sets of farm buildings and all improvements, \$26,217.04; present value of the same property (estimated), \$42,000. The 1882 product of the 1,087 acres under cultivation was as follows:

Wheat.....	16,197 bushels.
Oats.....	14,616 "
Potatoes.....	1,050 "
Hay.....	105 tons.

The whole selling for \$23,444.13. The net proceeds realized by Mr. Wells, after paying all expenses, amounted to \$7,814.71. The above statement emphasizes the profits of Dakota farming. It shows that the net returns from 1,087 acres of cultivated land paid 29 per cent. interest on the actual cost of 2,720 acres of land and all improvements, or 18 1-2 per cent. on the present estimated value of the 2,720 acres. The present estimated value showing a gain of more than 50 per cent. over the cost.

The average net income to the owner from every acre of land cultivated is shown to have been \$7.18, being 10 per ct. interest on a valuation of \$71.80 per acre, and yet some people claim our lands are too high where they reach \$10 or \$15 per acre. Mr. Wells reports a few of the exceptional yields, as follows: The highest yield of wheat was 39 bushels, being the average yield on 27 acres. One measured field of 100 acres of wheat yielded 3,405 bushels, over 34 bushels per acre, another field of 205 acres measured out from the machine 6,199 bushels, or a little over 30 bushels per

acre. On the other hand, though Mr. Wells' land produced a small yield to bring the average down to the general average of the entire James River Valley, so that as a whole the above figures may be taken as a fair estimate of what can be done anywhere in North Dakota.—Jamestown Alert.

As the above report is for 1882 I desire to say that the season referred to was one that is marked with the smallest general yield in the history of North Dakota.

J. A. Teeple, of Aylmer, bought 320 acres last July, paying \$3,800 for the farm and the standing crop. He sold the crop for \$3,550—leaving the whole farm costing him, at the end of the first season, only \$241, besides the work of harvesting, threshing, and marketing. Mr. Teeple also bought 160 acres for \$2,000 and the first crop brought him \$1,778—making the cost of the farm all paid for, at the end of the first season, except \$212. T. L. Fay came to Dakota five years ago and took a homestead and timber claim, and at the time had nothing but a span of horses and \$120 in cash, and since that time he had prospered, so that today he is worth \$6,500—all of it made off his farms, in addition to his current expenses of various sorts. There is scarcely a township in all Dakota which does not afford opportunities for success as marked as any of these cases, and it is the continued and wide-spread evidence of this fact that is attracting so many people from the Eastern States to this section. A home-seeker can scarcely make a mistake in locating in Dakota—the only mistake he is likely to make is in feeling that, on account of his reputation, things grow spontaneously out here. It takes good, honest hard work to make these successes, and drones needn't hope to find fortunes to be picked up without effort.

From the Dakota News.

Mr. George Swope, living in the northwest corner of this township, landed in Larimore about two years ago with just one lone nickle in his pocket. He went to work at anything which offered, and today owns 160 acres of Dakota dirt, forty-three acres broken and partly under cultivation. He has a good house and barn with cellar and well. He owns a team of oxen, has a cow, calf and pigs, and is on the high road to becoming a well to do and wealthy farmer in the near future. He has a living at least assured himself and family, and a house he can call his own. This is one of the possibilities which Dakota affords to any energetic and gritty young man.

From the Carrington News.

H. W. Rice, from Atlanta, Logan County, Illinois, settled in Pingree April 7th. Rented 160 acres, broken the year before, put half in wheat and half in oats. Expects to get twenty bushels of wheat and forty bushels of oats to the acre. Put up twenty tons of hay. Also built four shanties and broke fifteen acres near Rockford. Had five horses and the help of one man, to whom he paid eighty-five dollars wages. Expects to get 160 acres plowed this fall. Was offered eighty-five cents per bushel for his wheat, and forty-five cents for oats as they stand in the shock. Figures his profits for the season's labor at \$1,000. Is so well pleased with the country and its promise and prospects that he will enter upon much larger operations next year, and has rented from Dr. Drake 300 acres to crop next spring, and will break a half section of his own next spring near Rockford, on 4-147-66 and 34-147-67. These are facts that need no comment and are worth a column of glittering generalities. Come to Dakota and do likewise.

Dakota has become famous abroad for her bonanza farms. One of the argest and probably best cultivated is the Grandin Farm, about thirty miles north of Fargo, and contains 12,000 acres under cultivation requiring three hundred laborers and two hundred and fifty head of stock to do the work. Ten steam threshers are used to do the threshing for the farm. The Fargo Republican says:

The extraordinary amount of 2,300 bushels were threshed out by one machine on a certain date, and at another time, by another machine, 3,500 bushels of oats were threshed.

The pay roll for September amounted to \$14,000. The amount of wheat raised the past season was 157,000 bushels. Everything is done systematically. Mr. A. R. Dalrymple is the superintendent, Jno. R. Hague is agent, R. W. Wright is the cashier and bookkeeper. Owing to the low price of wheat and low water in the river, the farm has considered it to their advantage to hold most of the wheat till. All of the vegetables, hay, oats, etc., used on the farm, are raised thereon. The farm has eight divisions, on which is a large boarding house. It has its own blacksmith and carpenter shops, etc., and men employed constantly in them. The above are only a few facts which go to show the magnitude of this farm and its operations.

A writer from Jamestown to the London (Eng.) Times mentions some of the larger farms near Jamestown:

The Cooper Brothers, who are located thirty-two miles northeast of Jamestown, and are getting a railroad driven through their 46,000 acres, with depreciated bonds secured two years ago their lands at about \$1.50 per acre. They have built barns and stabling, done about eight miles of ditching; their taxes are about \$15 per section; about one-tenth of their property is now under cultivation; this year they have 75,000 bushels of wheat averaging twenty bushels an acre, 20,000 of barley and 13,000 of oats. A little further west the Gray Brothers have 8,000 acres—one-fourth is now broken; one-eighth was under crop this year; the wheat made an average of twenty-three bushels an acre. At Spiritwood, the next station east of Jamestown, a farming company has begun operations. English capital is helping to convert these prairies into wheat fields. Mr. Richard Sykes, of Stockport, with whom is associated Mr. Hughes, has 50,000 acres near the Mouse River branch lines, thirty miles north of Jamestown, and nearly an equal area to the south has about 4,000 acres broken, back-set, and ready for wheat so soon as the frost goes, which it usually does toward the middle of March; is building good farm-houses and barns; and breaking 60 to 100 acres on each mile section; is thus preparing homes for several score of settlers who may hold on the share system by lease. It has been humorously but veraciously remarked "that there is more money to be made honestly in the West than can be got by stealing in the East or in the old country."

Below I give a few authentic crop notes, that have been selected especially on account of their reliability. The following are near Tower City and were reported to the Herald.

Dr. R. N. Howard had a yield of 25 bushels per acre.

A. W. Webster reports an average of 20 bushels of wheat.

Capt. A. Shumway reports an average on 160 acres of 17 bushels per acre.

H. J. Miller on his home farm reports an average yield of White Russian wheat of 22 bushels.

Hon. L. J. Allred on his homestead raised 3,500 bushels of wheat, 1,700 of oats, and 600 of barley.

O. B. Pickett reports the following wheat averages: 1880, 31 bushels; 1881, 17 bushels; 1882, 19 bushels; 1883, 20 bushels per acre.

F. E. Orendorff raised 250 acres of wheat, which averaged 20 bushels per acre. His oats on 50 acres averaged 40 bushels per acre.

G. H. Ellsbury had several fields of grain and different varieties of wheat and oats. Wheat averaged 24 and 20 bushels; oats 50 and 40 bushels per acre.

Howe & Mairs, big farm, southeast of town, report an average on one section of wheat of 22 bushels per acre. Their barley and oats gave enormous yields.

The receipts of wheat at the mill and elevator has been as high as 10,000 bushels per day.

And the following is reported from Binghamton:

D. Conan, wheat, 20 bushels.

C. Hackett, wheat, 18 bushels.

J. P. Liddle, wheat, 20 bushels.

S. S. Shaw, wheat, 18 bushels.

E. W. Hope, wheat, 20 bushels.

Haines & Vance, wheat, 16 bushels.

S. R. Sturdevant, wheat, 16 bushels.

Andrews & Delano, wheat, 18 bushels.

H. L. Loveland, wheat 22 bushels, oats 70 bushels.

The following interesting and reliable statistics are taken from the Fargo Daily Argus, March 25th:

In the months of November, December, January and February, a gentleman traveled through North Dakota, gathering information of every character from the farmers. He has kindly sent the Argus several pages of his report, showing the average yields and variety of crops raised in several of the counties of North Dakota. There has been no selection done, an item is given, whether it be good, indifferent or bad, on each page taken from the original document.

The statistics show the results on crops of all kinds and disproves the allegation made so frequently in the East that nothing but wheat can be raised in the Territory. Wheat is the great crop, the stand-by, but diversified farming is just as successful, and many times even more lucrative. The table is well worth studying, and is as follows:

E. P. Wells, Stutsman county, 205 acres of wheat, 31 bushels to the acre.

E. P. Wells, Stutsman county, 100 acres of wheat, 34 bushels to the acre.

E. P. Wells, Stutsman county, 27 acres of wheat, 30 2-3 bushels to the acre.

James Lee, Stutsman county, 120 acres of wheat, 33 1-6 bushels to the acre.

E. P. Wells, North LaMoure, 1,560 acres of oats, 72.3 bushels to the acre.

J. J. Eddy, Stutsman county, 5 acres of oats, 100 bushels to the acre.

S. L. Glaspell, Stutsman county, 275 acres of barley, 38 bushels to the acre.

J. A. Atkinson, Stutsman county, 10 acres of potatoes, 170 bushels to the acre.

F. E. Jones, Stutsman county, 4 acres of onions, 500 bushels to the acre.

Frank Hunter, Griggs county, 50 acres of wheat, 20 bushels to the acre.

Frank Hunter, Griggs county, 50 acres of oats, 30 bushels to the acre.

S. B. Langford, Griggs county, 20 acres of wheat, 25 bushels to the acre.

Sykes & Hughes, Foster county, 425 acres of wheat, 24 1-4 bushels to the acre.

David Curtis, Stutsman county, 20 acres of oats, 100 bushels to the acre.

Cuyler Adams, Stutsman county, 500 acres of oats, 70 bushels to the acre.

Henry Severn, Stutsman county, 40 acres of wheat, 37 1-2 bushels to the acre.

Jeremiah Collins, Stutsman county, 160 acres of wheat, 32 bushels to the acre.

J. Cunningham, Stutsman county, 40 acres of wheat, 25 bushels to the acre.

J. W. Goodrich, Stutsman county, 400 acres of timothy, two tons to the acre.

RANSOM AND SARGENT COUNTIES.

M. L. Heath, Lisbon, 7 acres of wheat, 28 bushels to the acre.

M. L. Heath, Lisbon, 5 acres of potatoes, 400 bushels to the acre.

M. L. Heath, Lisbon, 20 acres of oats, 65 bushels to the acre.

J. S. Sullivan, Shenford, 160 acres of wheat, 22 1-2 bushels to the acre.

J. S. Sullivan, Shenford, 10 acres of corn, 40 bushels to the acre.

G. E. Meeshon, Lisbon, 80 acres of wheat, 27 1-2 bushels to the acre.

L. E. Truesdell, Lisbon, 32 acres of wheat, 28 bushels to the acre.

George L. Forward, Lisbon, 30 (new) acres of wheat, 21 bushels to the acre.

Gilbert Hanson, Standing Rock, 50 acres of wheat, 25 bushels to the acre.

Gilbert Hanson, Standing Rock, 20 acres of oats, 50 bushels to the acre.

Gilbert Hanson, Standing Rock, 10 acres of barley, 60 bushels to the acre.

Thomas Olson, Mullan, 25 acres of oats, 60 bushels to the acre.

Patrick Devitt, Scoville, 27 acres of wheat, 30 1-4 bushels to the acre.

H. T. Shipley, Lisbon, 150 acres of wheat, 26 bushels to the acre.

Engle & Robinson, Lisbon, 600 acres of wheat, 20 bushels to the acre.

Engle & Robinson, Lisbon, 100 acres of oats; 65 bushels to the acre.

Engle & Robinson, Lisbon, 100 acres of barley, 40 bushels to the acre.

H. S. Oliver, Lisbon, same crops, 600 acres, same yield.

A. G. Evans, Lisbon, 100 acres of wheat, 18 1-2 bushels to the acre.

A. G. Evans, Lisbon, 40 acres of oats, 75 bushels to the acre.

A. G. Evans, Lisbon, 1 acre of potatoes, 200 bushels.

Peter Bonner, Bonnersville, 150 acres of wheat, 18 to 26 bushels to the acre.

Peter Bonner, Bonnersville, 20 acres of oats, 55 to 60 bushels to the acre.

Abraham Rundell, Plymouth, 50 acres of wheat, 18 bushels to the acre.

In addition to the above, Charles E. Moore says that he raises with great success fine crops of flax, potatoes, corn and barley.

G. Mershon, crops of oats, corn, beans, buckwheat, barley and all kinds of vegetables.

Thomas M. Elliott raised a splendid crop of flax, millet, beans and corn. Sixty acres of wheat yielded twenty-seven bushels to the acre of extra No. 1 hard, most of which he sold for seed at one dollar and ten cents per bushel.

Dell Rapids Exponent: Elmer Carr had one piece of wheat containing six acres, that averaged 30 bushels per acre, and the balance 26. Oats 56, and flax 17 bushels per acre.

H. W. Fay of Iroquois, planted one potato last spring, and secured from that one potato exactly forty and one-half pounds.

Oliver Dalrymple, the bonanza farmer near Casselton, has threshed this season, 150,000 bushels of wheat and 40,000 bushels of oats, getting a total of 40,000 bushels at \$10,000 less expense than last year. The crop was grown on 9,500 acres of ground.

Columbia Dispatch: Dakota is not only supplying the Eastern States with bread but she is also sending them potatoes to help them through the winter. J. A. Edsall has shipped one car load to Michigan already and he will follow up this shipment with others soon.

Southeastern Dakota is taking front rank as a butter producing country and Mitchell is fast becoming a popular market for that staple product. The purity of the atmosphere, the great variety of the grasses and the

abundance of delightful water, render this locality peculiarly adapted for dairy interests.

Tower City Herald: Mr. Atchison of the Elgin farm, has been experimenting in oat raising. From one ounce of Welcome oats, planted one oat in a place, four inches apart, he had a yield of two hundred and fifty-six ounces. From one pound of Scotch oats planted in drills, he gathered one hundred and sixty pounds notwithstanding the damage by gophers and drouth. Mr. Atchison is satisfied Dakota soil will produce fifty bushels of wheat or oats if properly tilled.

Grafton Herald: Here is a living fact that can be proved by undoubted evidence. Martin Christian, who lives two miles east of Grafton, threshed from one acre of wheat, forty-eight bushels by machine measure, which weighed fifty-six bushels in J. H. Townsend & Co's elevator. Mr. Frank E. Chase, whose word no person who knows him will doubt, certifies to it, and Mr. Henry Harlin confirms it, if confirmation is necessary.

Columbia Dispatch: Jerry Walters raised thirty acres of flax on sod breaking this year on his claim in 126-61, which yielded ten bushels per acre of an excellent quality of seed. Flax is a most profitable crop for farmers in Dakota even when sowed on sod breaking, and it leaves the ground in excellent condition for next year's crop. The seed is all contracted for before hand at a stipulated price, by linseed oil companies, so that the producer is guaranteed a sure sale at a fixed price.

A farmer near Flandrau, Moody county, whose name cannot be recalled, had a sixty acre field of wheat that yielded forty bushels to the acre. This seems like fiction; but the editor of this paper has talked with gentlemen who saw the grain.

S. L. Clark of Hudson, Ohio, has furnished the Tower City Herald some interesting and valuable figures concerning the amount of money invested in a Northern Ohio dairy farm, together with the cost of managing and the profits obtained therefrom in one year. Mr. Clark says:

I have been to much trouble to see a number of our large farmers and have got their reports for '83. I will give a report of a farm of 160 acres which I believe to be what the average farms in this town will show. This farm has 20 acres timber, furnishing fuel and fencing timber for the place. Also 400 sugar trees. The remainder of the farm is all available land for pasture, hay or plowing. If there is no plowing done on the farm except for wheat for family use, and corn and oats for stock on the place, it will keep all the year, three horses and twenty-five cows at a profit shown:

25 cows made per head \$38.00	\$950.00
3 hogs, sold off the farm.....	50.00
400 sugar trees, made 1000 lbs.....	100.00

\$1,100.00

A strong, able bodied farmer will need the help of one man by year, to run his farm.

The average price paid is about \$18.....	\$216.00
Taxes on farm and personal property.....	64.00

\$280.00

Leaving for the farmer \$820 as compensation for money invested and labor for himself and wife besides what they have used for their own living on the farm.

Statement of investment:

160 acres \$60 per acre.....	\$ 9,600
25 cows \$40 each.....	1,000
3 horses \$100 each.....	300
Mower, wagon, carriage, harrows, sugar fixtures, etc.....	1,600

\$11,500

This it will be seen is 7 1-10 per cent on investment, not counting the farmer's labor.

Very little wheat raised here, some farmers from 10 to 20 acres. Crop this year very light not over 12 bushels per acre on the average and this by using not less than four dollars worth of fertilizer per acre. Corn crop very light.

The small profit on farming has made many discontented, who are planning to go West in the spring. The largest portion of them are going to Dakota.

The Herald also publishes a statement of the cultivation and profits of a farm in Cass county, Dakota, of equal size as the Ohio farm. The comparison speaks loudly in favor of the land of No. 1 hard. The report is furnished by F. E. Orendorff, a practical farmer, and is his own personal experience. It is as follows:

TOWER CITY, Feb. 26, '84.

As you wanted my idea of receipts and expenditures in cultivating 160 acres of grain, I will give the following—not counting my own time nor board. Allowing one and a half bushels of seed per acre, which I think is the amount usually sown, though with good seed, well put in, and a favorable season, a less amount is just as good, and perhaps better. The yield we will put at 20 bushels per acre, which I think would be an average one year with another, and the price at 80 cents per bushel.

EXPENSES.

Seed for 160 acres, at \$1.00 per bushel.....	\$240
Man to help put in crop.....	26
Time at 40 cents per acre.....	64
Two men to shock, 13 days at \$2.00 per day.....	52
Three men to stack, eight days, \$2.00 per day.....	48
Fifteen men threshing, 4 days, at \$2.00 per day.....	120
Boarding men.....	57
Threshing 3,200 bushels, 5 cents per bushel.....	160
One man to help plow.....	30
Taxes.....	50
	<hr/>
	\$847

RECEIPTS.

3,200 bushels at 80 cents per bushel.....	\$2,560
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INVESTMENT.

160 acres of land at \$15.00.....	\$2,400
5 horses at \$180.....	900
Twine Binder.....	250
Gang Plow.....	75
Seeder and Harrow.....	100
Two wagons.....	150
Harnesses.....	75
	<hr/>
	\$3,950

Per cent. of profit on investment 20 1-3 per cent., say nothing of the value of straw, which is worth considerable as feed for stock.

The following products were to be seen in Dakota's exhibit at the Milwaukee exposition: Pampas grass thirteen feet four inches high; blue joint grass, eight feet three inches high; cornstalks, thirteen feet ten inches high; wheat, five feet two inches and oats six feet six inches high; beets, two feet five inches long and twenty-nine inches in circumference,

weighing twenty-seven pounds without the leaves; onions seven inches in diameter: potatoes weighing two pounds three ounces: rutabaga weighing twenty-six pounds without leaves; white turnip girding forty-one inches

and weighing thirty two pounds without leaves: ears of corn fourteen inches long; gourds four and one-half ft. long; squash weighing 123 pounds; wheat weighing sixty-two and one-half pounds to the bushel and yielding forty-three bushels to the acre; oats weighing thirty-nine pounds and yielding 107 bushels to the acre.

C. S. Cooley, on his farm near Tower City, Dakota, threshed 1,433 bushels of oats from twenty acres—over seventy-one bushels to acre.—Tower City (Dak.) Herald.

Owing to the splendid quality of the grain raised in the Red River Valley this year, a new grade has been established, styled Extra No. 1 hard.—Casselton Reporter.

According to the statistics of The American Miller, Dakota produced more bushels of wheat than the aggregate yield of all the New England states and New York, Delaware, South Carolina, Alabama, Mississippi and the Territory of Montana.

North Dakota has ninety-seven elevators, which were chock full of grain this season; and they proved greatly inadequate to the demands of the crops.

Next year the crop will be greatly increased, and nearly double this year's elevator capacity will be needed.

If any one imagines Dakota to be a prairie country such as Illinois was before it was settled, he has a wrong conception of it. It differs in this: The air is purer: the sunshine is brighter, more abundant and healthier;

SEEDING IN DAKOTA.



the land is fairer, richer, more beautiful, and there is none of it that can be designated as swamp or waste land; the crops are more sure and abundant. A man who has any man in him—a man who is not a chronic grumbler—will endure with patience and good nature all the pains and penalties which nature inflicts upon him here, because of the lavish hand with which she bestows her favors. That's what ails Dakota!—Cooperstown Courier.

Mr. Van Deusen, of the Troy farm near Tappan, reports his experience in sheep raising to the Carrington News, as follows :

I am the owner of a little bunch of sheep, put in simply to test the truth or otherwise of stories I had heard about wild oats. I started with twenty in the fall of '79, and my flock now, adding those sold and butchered, represents 150. I have not been able to give them any attention personally. Their fleeces have reimbursed me for original outlay and expense of feeding, and I consider that I am now ahead all of \$700 on the investment. I have used a Cotswold ram on common Minnesota ewes. The wethers of this cross dress 70 to 80 pounds of mutton at a year; and 125 pounds at two years. They clip an average of 8 1-2 pounds.

For the encouragement of young men who are half inclined to "go West" I append extracts from reliable newspapers relative to the success of ladies of refinement and culture who have availed themselves of some of the numerous opportunities to improve one's condition in the Golden Northwest. This from the Jamestown Capital :

Mrs. Merritt and Mrs. Mitchell, of Chicago, last spring came out to one of the central counties and took pre-emption claims, which they staid on six months, and claim to have had a very pleasant time of it. Having proved up on these they have gone back to Chicago to spend the winter. In the early spring they will return and take homesteads. They will spend six months on these, then commute and pay up and each will be the owner of 320 acres of good lands, made in two summers and the expenditure of a few hundred dollars. Probably they will have tree claims also. Miss Hattie Rinehart, of Gibson, Ill., came to Dakota less than a year-and-a-half ago in very poor health. She took a homestead and tree claim and rapidly gained in health, as she inhaled the famed ozone. After a time she decided to commute on her homestead and take a pre-emption. While living on her claim with another lady, one night a playful zephyr blew over and tore to pieces her shack and diffused all but their night apparel over the prairie. They were a mile or more from any neighbors, but gopher and prairie dogs, but they gathered up such pieces of clothing as they could find and went to the nearest habitation. She soon had her shanty replaced. Recently she proved up on her pre-emption and sold it for \$900 cash, and has gone on a visit to her Illinois friends. She still holds 320 acres of choice land and has fully regained her health. There are many similar instances.

In Dakota as in no other place, women exercise the same rights as man. In Pierre, we have a lady lawyer, a lady physician (both unmarried but eligible,) and every female in town over twenty-one years old has a claim or title to 160 acres of land. But not only that, but a large number of Pierre ladies are the wives of "henpecked" husbands, so that we are justified in saying, that in no other place like Dakota is woman monarch of all she surveys.—Pierre Free Press.

The Huron Times has the following account of the Dakota girls and what they can do:

"About eight months ago Misses Mary and Jeanette Hopkins, Sallie

Hamilton and Angeline Harrington, all of Vinton, Iowa, came to Dakota and located on claims near Cavour. Their residence was situated on the four corners of their farms, and here they have lived, doing feats of agriculture that would be fatiguing to many an Eastern society young man. Yesterday they proved up, all the witnesses being ladies, and, as their affidavits show, they have fulfilled the letter of the law and are justly entitled to their farms. This may be an interesting item to the young man of the East who said he would come to Dakota if it were not for the hardships of pioneer life and the cold, cold climate of the Northwest.

Coming out of the land office Monday, a Herald reporter passed a group of three young ladies who had just "proved up" after six months' residence on claims. One could not help noticing, as the writer has often observed without noting before, how little the sex unsexes itself, and how greatly its best charms are enhanced in the persons of these maidens, mostly from seventeen to twenty-five who have gone through an ordeal of pioneer life on their own behalf, which would shame the luxury-loving and effeminate young men of eastern cities. There is a conscious independence in the erect and sturdy figure, in the firm elastic step, in the evidence of Nature's masterpiece of beauty—perfect health, in the clear, bright eye, the cheek carmined with roses fresh from the pure heart blood of young and blooming womanhood, and in the easy and graceful carriage in which there is nothing of the "girly-girl," but everything of the womanly woman. And with such a womanhood Dakota may be sure that its coming generations will not shame the robust manhood of its pioneers.—Grand Forks (Dak.) Herald.

On this subject concerning those who come to Dakota I want to remark that this is pre-eminently a young man's country, and according to my observation a large majority of the thrifty, energetic farmers and business men of Dakota are on the sunny side of life. The fact that Dakota possesses untold opportunities for men and women to achieve abundant success in every honorable avocation cannot be gainsaid. In every town of a few years growth may be found young men occupying important and profitable positions in all the legitimate trades and professions. Upon investigation we generally find that a large majority of these emigrated from their old homes to better their financial condition and without any capital except the mental and physical endowments of nature. By the judicious and industrious employment of their energies these men have succeeded in placing themselves in independent conditions of living. In a large majority of these cases had they remained in the old time rut, in the crowded States, they would today and through life be the hired menial of capital, instead of which they are now the possessors of capital and the employers of labor. This prosperous condition of things, has overtaken and surrounded them, while they have been busy planning and executing the construction of homes. This is a progressive country, while the weary husbandman sleeps, his most sanguine dreams of golden harvest is rapidly maturing. After the day's labor is o'er the merchant and professional man sets down and tranquilly takes his ease, for he knows that with the steady, rapid and healthy development of the vast resources of his adopted country, will come thousands of shining dollars, as the reward of his enterprise, patience and labors.

In the older communities the accumulation of even a competency without the rare and infrequent intervention of "luck" or "fortune" requires

an average lifetime. And the one-in-fifty who even then succeed has barely time to designate his heirs, before old age overtakes him and he is laid to rest under the soil, to the cultivation of which he has given his life.

Very different are the conditions to money-making in Dakota. The agriculturist, mechanic, merchant and professional men do not have to carve, alone, their fortunes. Each receives a share of his neighbor's industry and enterprise. The country is new. Nothing has yet reached its value. As the country becomes more thickly settled its resources are developed—their values increased, the products doubled and quadrupled and prosperity seizes unawares, the man who stands in its way. Yet this is no place for drones, visionaries or dawdlers. Men must have pluck and force; must not be afraid to lay hold of opportunities at the expense of muscle and vigor and meet success half way. They must be sober and law abiding or they will find little room and less encouragement in Dakota. A man is measured here for what he is—not for his antecedents, be they money or titles.

And now it may be asked what are the wonderful opportunities—of what particular phase of Aladdin's lamp do they consist?

First in the soil, which if industriously handled will bring more certain fortune than we read of in connection with the wonderful lamp. Then how to obtain this land is another question.

There are two distinct classes of vacant lands here of equal value, but obtainable here by widely different means.

RAILROAD LANDS.

One is the public lands granted by Act of Congress to the Northern Pacific Railroad. These lands comprise every alternate section in each township embraced in a strip of country forty miles wide, on each side of said railroad and parallel with it, together with an additional grant of ten miles adjoining on each side of original grant, and parallel with it through the Territory. These alternate sections belonging to the Railroad are the odd numbers,—the even numbers being government lands. The Railroad lands can be bought at low prices, ranging from four to ten dollars per acre, according to quality of lands and their location, on the following terms: one sixth cash at date of sale, remainder in five equal instalments with seven per cent interest. No discount for all cash. The preferred stock of the Northern Pacific Railroad Co. will be received at par in payment of principal or interest, and can be bought at this writing for 47 cents on the dollar, thus reducing the costs of their land to about one half list prices or \$2 to \$4 per acre. A rebate of \$1 per acre will be allowed on last payment for all land broken and put under cultivation within the first two years.

The Company reserves 400 feet for right of way along the main line or 100 feet for any branch or operated line that may be built across the land. Also the right to take water from, over or through the land sold. Purchasers are required to fence the right of way, when called on to do so. For definite information, ratings and prices write to R. J. Wemyss, General Land Agent, St. Paul, Minn. The Northern Pacific Railroad gives the

purchaser of any of their lands credit for his fare and freight on household goods and farm supplies, if he becomes an immediate actual settler. Land explorers' tickets may be found on sale at the principal ticket offices at reduced rates.

GOVERNMENT LANDS.

The other class of vacant land is known as Government land and are open to acquirement by filings of Homesteads, Pre-emptions and Tree Claims.

The agricultural lands are divided into two classes:— All Government land outside the railroad (Northern Pacific) belt of granted lands are known as minimum and cost \$1.25 per acre. All such lands lying inside that belt are known as double minimum and cost \$2.50 per acre, when "proved up" on and paid for after 6 months compliance with the land laws.

The following comprehensive summary of the land laws and rules of land department, is taken from the Lisbon Clipper of Ransom county and is correct and complete.

UNITED STATES LAND LAWS.

We summarize in the briefest possible manner the leading points of our Land Laws, so far as they refer to the Timber Culture, Pre-emption and Homestead Acts; and have itemized them in such a way that they will be clear to all. The acts themselves are of course accessible to any one who desires copies. The Government officials are always glad to forward any information in their power to inquirers at home and abroad. Intending settlers can obtain the full text of these regulations by addressing "The Commissioner of the General



HARVESTING IN DAKOTA.

to inquirers at home and abroad. Intending settlers can obtain the full text of these regulations by addressing "The Commissioner of the General

Land Office at Washington;" and also to the locality in which they desire to settle from the agent of that particular district. The offices are located as follows:

GRAND FORKS, for Red River Valley, midway between Canadian boundary and Fargo.

FARGO, intersection of Red River Valley and Northern Pacific railroad.
BISMARCK, Missouri River country, at intersection of Northern Pacific Railroad.

CREELSBERG (Devil's Lake City), for the Devil's Lake region, North Dakota to the Canadian frontier.

ABERDEEN, midway in the James River country.

MITCHELL, on Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul Railroad, Southeastern Dakota.

WATERTOWN, on Chicago and Northwestern Railroad, Eastern Dakota, midway between Fargo and Yankton.

YANKTON, Southeastern Dakota.

DEADWOOD, for Black Hills country, in Southwestern Dakota.

The address is simply "THE U. S. LAND OFFICE, FARGO, DAKOTA TERRITORY," U. S. or whichever office it may be desired to communicate with.

PRE-EMPTION ACT.

WHO CAN CLAIM.—Heads of families (whether twenty-one years of age or not) husbands, sons or widows; all persons, male or female, over twenty-one years of age, citizens of the United States, or who have declared intention to become such.

WHO CANNOT CLAIM.—No person who is the owner of 320 acres of land in any state or territory. So that any one who desires to have the benefit of all three acts may pre-empt when he holds a homestead or a tree claim.

REQUIREMENTS.—Continuous residence settlement, and cultivation until final proof.

PRICE.—In Dakota, within the forty mile railroad belt the price per acre \$2.50 is outside the belt the price \$1.25 per acre.

FINAL PROOF AND PAYMENT.—Final proof and payment must be made in thirty-three months from date of settlement, and may be made after six months of actual residence and improvement. The improvements must be of a substantial and valuable character, and the facts must be attested to by claimant and two competent witnesses.

FEES.—Two dollars when the application or declaratory statement is made and eight dollars at final proof.

NOT TRANSFERABLE.—Claims cannot be transferred until title is perfected.

ONE ENTRY ONLY.—Only one pre-emption is allowed to one and the same individual.

NO SPECULATION.—Pre-emptor must also swear that he has not settled such land for speculation but for his own exclusive use.

HOMESTEAD ACT.

WHO CAN CLAIM.—Heads of families (whether twenty-one years of age or not) husbands, sons or widows; all persons, male or female, over twenty-one years of age, citizens of the United States, or who have declared intention to become such.

REQUIREMENTS.—Continued residence, settlement, and cultivation for five years from date of entry.

SALE INVALID.—The sale of a homestead by the settler to another party before the completion of title vests no title in purchaser and will not be recognized by the government.

ONE ENTRY ONLY.—The law allows but one homestead privilege, and a settler who abandons or relinquishes his claim cannot make a second entry.

FEES.—Fees are \$18 at time of entry, and \$8 additional at final proof, when patent issues.

ABSENCES.—An occasional visit to the land every few weeks, and occupation by a steward, with cultivation is not sufficient. The homestead must be the actual home of the claimant. Occasional absence for a few days, or even weeks, if good faith be shown in all respects, will not subject the claim to forfeiture.

NOT LIABLE FOR DEBT.—Homesteads are not liable for debts contracted prior to issue of patent.

COMMUTED HOMESTEADS.—If the settler does not wish to reside for five years upon his tract, he may pay for it at the rate of \$2.50 per acre any time after six months' residence and cultivation.

CHANGED TO PRE-EMPTION.—Homesteads may be turned into pre-emption at any time within five years from date of entry.

FINAL PROOF.—Cannot be made before five years and must be made within seven. Settler must swear to his continuous residence and cultivation; that the homestead has not been alienated (except for church, school, cemetery, or railroad requirements); that he is the sole bona fide owner of it or actual settler, and that he will bear true allegiance to the government of the United States. This testimony must be supported by two credible witnesses.

THE TREE CULTURE ACT.

WHO CAN CLAIM.—Heads of families (whether twenty-one years of age or not) husbands, sons, or widows; or all persons male or female, over twenty-one years of age, being citizens of the United States or having declared their intention to become such.

ONE ENTRY ONLY.—Only one entry can be made by the same individual for one quarter-section of untimbered land, but as many entries can be made in the same section as will aggregate a quarter of the whole section.

ONE CLAIM IN A SECTION.—Not more than one tree claim of one hundred and sixty acres can be allowed in a section of six hundred and forty acres.

HOW CULTIVATED.—Of the quarter section allowed for tree culture, ten acres must be planted to trees in the following manner:

First year, five acres must be broken.

Second year, the first five must be cultivated to a crop, and another five acres broken.

Third year, the first five acres must be planted to timber seeds, cuttings or trees, and the second five acres cropped.

Fourth year, the second five acres must be planted with timber seeds, or cuttings, or trees, and the second five acres cropped.

Fifth to eight years, the whole amount of ten acres of timber must be continuously cultivated, and if destroyed by grasshoppers, drought or other mischance must be replaced.

GRASSHOPPERS, ETC.—Extension of time is allowed in case the trees, seeds or cuttings are destroyed by grasshoppers or drought, etc.

FINAL PROOF.—A patent for the land will be issued at the expiration of eight years from the date of entry, or any time within five years thereafter, if claimant or heir shall prove by two credible witnesses that not fewer than 2,700 trees have been planted to the acre and that 675 living and thrifty trees are growing on each acre, or 6,750 in all at time of final proof.

WHAT IS TIMBER?—The following are recognized by the act: Ash, alder, birch, beech, black walnut, basswood, black locust, larch, maple, box elder, oak, pine, cedar, chestnut, cottonwood, elm, fir, spruce, hickory, honey locust, plane tree or cotton tree, buttonwood or sycamore, service tree or mountain ash, white walnut or butternut, white willow, and white wood or tulip tree.

WHEN FORFEITABLE.—If requirements of law be not complied with within one year from date of entry, claim reverts to the Government.

FEES.—Fees are \$14 at time of entry for 160 acres, and \$4 more at final proof.

NOT LIABLE FOR DEBT.—The tree claim cannot be held for debts contracted prior to the issue of the patent therefor.

RESIDENCE UNNECESSARY.—The tree claim does not require residence.

The "Clipper" has prepared the following interesting list of important questions and reliable and authentic answers for the benefit of those inclined to Dakota. The Clipper is a wide-awake, well-edited newspaper devoted largely to disseminating useful and reliable information relative to Dakota and especially Ransom County.

Q. What other crops besides wheat can be raised in North Dakota?

A. Oats, barley, flax, potatoes, peas and corn are sure and profitable. Experiments with Indian corn have been successful.

Q. Can live stock be raised in your section?

A. Dakota heads the territories in the last census for the value of its live stock. Our possibilities in this direction are hardly realized yet, but are practically without limit.

Q. Can dairy products be profitably sold?

A. Gilt edge butter retails at forty cents per pound, and hard to get at that price. First quality of butter always scarce. Wild hay can be put up at \$2 per ton.

Q. Will it pay to bring stock with me?

A. Assuredly. Milch cows are worth here from \$50 to \$75. Beef cattle are always saleable. Young stock especially rapidly increases in value. Swine and sheep have done exceptionally well.

Q. Have you churches and schools in your county?

A. Yes; county schools and ten or more churches.

Q. What nationalities predominate?

A. Americans in this section with a sprinkling of Scandinavians.

Q. Have you a grain market in Lisbon?

A. Yes; one elevator, and there are private buyers besides.

Q. Has Dakota a healthy climate?

A. In the highest degree, and almost all ailments contracted elsewhere are beneficially affected here.

Q. Is not the cold of winter almost unbearable?

A. The children do not think so. Our public schools have had a large average attendance even at an extreme temperature—twenty and thirty degrees below zero. To be happy in winter one should be warmly clothed, well housed and substantially fed.

Q. What are the special disabilities of the farmer?

A. None. Neither insect plague, nor war of elements.

Q. Have you good water?

A. There is no alkali in the water here. All cases of bad water here occur from curbing with pine.

Q. When should a man come to Dakota?

A. April is a good time. If a man can leave his family comfortably provided for at home, it is often better that he should come alone and select his land and make all preparations for his family before they join him.

Q. What wages are paid for farm labor in your section?

A. Regular season hands get \$25 to \$30 per month and board. Higher wages, of course, for harvesting.

Q. What machinery is necessary to work a one-man farm?

A. One man can work 100 acres with extra help in harvest and threshing. Necessary plant for first year is simply a breaking plow, mower, rake and a wagon. Next year, seeder, spring-tooth harrow and harvester.

Q. Define the term "breaking" and "back-setting."

A. "Breaking" is plowing the original sod of the prairie. "Back-setting" is a second and a deeper plowing later in the season.

Q. Should I bring household furniture and farm machinery with me?

A. If you take a car and have room for all your furniture, it is pleasant to reproduce your old home in a new country. Eastern farm machinery is not very suitable out here; better buy implements built especially for the prairie.

Q. What is the price of government land?

A. Government land is not sold in Dakota, but is granted only to actual settlers; homestead and tree claims without cost, and pre-emptions at \$1.25 or \$2.50 per acre; according to location within or without the railroad belt.

Q. Are Canadian or Dakota land laws the more favorable to the settler?

A. Dakota gives 320 acres for nothing. Canada only 160. Regulations as a whole are vastly more favorable to the settlers in Dakota than in Canada.

Q. What is the price of railroad lands?

A. Four dollars per acre upwards, according to location, payable in preferred railway stock, which makes the price per acre from \$2 up.

Q. What are horses worth in Dakota?

A. First-class farm horses are worth \$300 to \$400 a pair.

Q. What is price of working oxen?

A. \$125 a yoke for smart, heavy cattle, in the spring.

Q. What is a breaking team?

A. Three or four horses or mules, or two yokes of cattle.

Q. Is your land easily worked?



THRASHING IN DAKOTA.

A. Worked profitably with less labor than any other country we know of, but first-class, thorough culture pays in Dakota as well as elsewhere. The curse of the Territory is the universal effort to crop too large an area.

Q. How much breaking can a man and team do per day?

A. Two to two and a half acres, according to ability of team and driver.

Q. When do you sow the grain?

A. Immediately after snow disappears and before frost is out of the ground,—beginning of April.

- Q. Are you liable to tornadoes, hurricanes, or cyclones?
 A. No.
- Q. What is a blizzard?
 A. Hard to define. Air filled with frost, heavy wind blowing, apparently from all points at once. Of rare occurrence, except in a mild form; have not had more than two to date this winter.
- Q. What diseases prevail in North Dakota?
 A. None whatever.
- Q. Is Dakota a safe climate for a consumptive or rheumatic person?
 A. Safe and beneficial to any one with simply a tendency or predisposition to consumption. If consumption is thoroughly rooted, must not come to this rare, dry atmosphere.
- Q. What classes may safely go to Dakota?
 A. Anybody and everybody who will take up land and industriously and intelligently work it.
- Q. What do papers mean by cowboyism?
 A. Rowdyism of the cattle herder five hundred to a thousand miles west of us. Unknown here.
- Q. What about taxes?
 A. Taxes are light as the county has no bonded debt as yet, and not likely to have for some years to come.
- Q. How are school funds raised?
 A. By special tax for the purpose, under territorial organization. One-eighteenth of all the land in the territory is reserved for school fund after state organization is obtained.
- Q. Is any acclimating process necessary?
 A. No.
- Q. How much capital should a man have to start with?
 A. Depends on the man. All the way from nothing to ten or fifteen hundred dollars. Settlers must be prepared in some way to wait until the second year for a wheat crop, although oats, peas, potatoes, and other vegetables can be raised first season to some extent.
- Q. Have you much snow or rain in Dakota?
 A. Twelve or fifteen or eighteen inches of snow is full winter's fall. Not much rain out of the growing season.
- Q. Is travel or outdoor labor practicable in winter?
 A. Building goes on successfully, with only slight interruptions from weather. A man well clothed can travel as much as he wishes all winter.
- Q. Are your railroads operated in winter?
 A. All of them. Blockades are much less frequent here than in Illinois or New England.
- Q. Are life and property safe so far west?
 A. Much more so than in large eastern cities. The "tramp" has not reached Dakota yet.
- Q. What is the wheat product per acre in your section?
 A. Twenty-eight bushels of wheat can be raised without excessive labor; other grains in proportion.
- Q. Can you raise timothy for stock?
 A. Has been successfully tried. Live stock will do well on wild hay.
- Q. Do your farmers mostly use horses or oxen?
 A. Both, according to taste or means. Oxen are considered cheaper for opening farms, horses or mules more profitable afterwards.
- Q. Is the country open or timbered?
 A. No timber anywhere, except in river bottoms or around lake shores.
- Q. What roads will bring us to Dakota?
 A. Any Chicago or St. Paul road. Northern Pacific direct from St. Paul.
- Q. What is the difference between railroad and government lands?
 A. Railroad lands are the odd numbered sections for fifty miles on each

side of the main line of the Northern Pacific railroad. Government lands are all even numbers within that area, and both odd and even numbers outside of the railroad limits.

Q. How about railway fare and freight?

A. The Northern Pacific railway has reduced the fare to settlers and emigrants to only about a nominal rate, and will rebate all freight paid by those who take up railroad lands.

Q. What special inducements are held out in Ransom county?

A. Many, among which is the liberal offer of James E. Wisner, of this city, who owns about 40,000, to sell any number of acres desired by the settler and take his pay in wheat at \$1 per bushel, raised upon the land sold.

The following questions are answered by the Bismarck Tribune, and are applicable to all parts of North Dakota:

Q. How is the climate in winter?

A. It is cold but not worse than it is in New York, and not half as disagreeable as it is in Pennsylvania, Ohio, Indiana and Illinois. It seldom thaws and never rains. It is bright, crisp and invigorating. The snow is not heavy; atmosphere dry.

Q. What is the surface of the country?

A. Rolling prairie as a rule, and occasionally level stretches. It is well adapted to the highest agriculture.

Q. When do you plow?

A. The breaking season is from the middle of April to the middle of July. Breaking should be done while the grass is growing. When it begins to die in July it is time to quit.

Q. When do you harvest?

A. In August. The harvest season is usually dry, making it possible to secure our No. 1 hard wheat in the best shape.

Q. How soon do you have to get on your land after you take it?

A. Within six months, but the homestead law may be amended, extending the time to twelve months, providing the settler builds a good house and does some plowing during that time.

Q. How much wheat to the acre can I raise?

A. From eighteen to thirty bushels, if you are a good farmer. The man who does his work well will get the best crop.

Q. How can I get most reliable information?

A. By subscribing for a live newspaper.

Q. Can I get a crop the first year?

A. Not a very good one. This soil should not be cultivated until the second season. The sod should have time to rot in its own way.

Q. Have you good water?

A. Our water is good. Very little complaint is ever heard.

Q. When do you have your rains in Dakota?

A. In April, May and June the principal rains fall. It is in these months we need moisture to make the first plowing of prairie sod easy and the wheat, oats, barley and vegetable crops grow.

Q. What does it cost at the land office to enter a homestead?

A. Eighteen dollars.

Q. Can you raise barley?

A. Yes, and we do. No better country in the world. More ought to raise it. It is both profitable and sure.

Q. What does a farm hand get per month?

A. Thirty dollars and found.

Q. What is a pre-emption?

A. A piece of land, 160 acres more or less, that a settler takes from the government upon the condition that he improves and lives on it for not less than six months before acquiring title. He can hold it, however, for

thirty-three months if he see fit before paying for it. This law is most certain of being repealed by the present congress. Price per acre within forty miles of the railroad \$2.50 per acre; beyond that limit \$1.25 per acre.

Q. Describe a blizzard?

A. It is a lively wind full of snow, more or less uncomfortable as snow storms always are. It is damaging, too, if the traveler is unprepared to wrestle with it.

Q. When do you sow wheat?

A. As soon as the frost is out of the ground to the depth of two or three inches.

Q. What can I build a comfortable house for?

A. From \$200 to \$600, according to the size.

Q. What does a fair milch cow cost?

A. From thirty-five to fifty dollars.

Q. Is your country a good cattle country?

A. One of the very best in our opinion.

Q. Does produce bring good figures?

A. First-class. Our farmers have not yet got very deep into butter, eggs, poultry, etc. The farmers who will make specialties of this kind of stuff, will make a nice thing. By all means come and go to raising chickens, and making good butter.

A township is 36 sections, each a mile square. A section is 640 acres. A quarter section, half a mile square, is 160 acres. An eighth section, half a mile long north and south, and a quarter of a mile wide, is 80 acres. A sixteenth section, a quarter of a mile square, is 40 acres.

The sections are all divided into quarter sections, which are named by the cardinal points, as in section 1. The quarters are divided in the same way. The description of a 40 acre lot would read: The south half of the west half of the southwest quarter of section 1 in township 24, north of range 7 west, or as the case may be; and sometimes it will fall short and sometimes overrun the number of acres it is supposed to contain.

Good horses can be bought in Dakota at from \$75 to \$150, according to size, etc. Cows are worth from \$25 to \$30 each, and working oxen from \$80 to \$125 per yoke. Standard makes of farm wagons cost \$75. Breaking costs usually \$3.50 to \$5.00 per acre, and back-setting \$1.50 to \$2.00. Lumber, implements, groceries, etc., can be bought at rates not much higher than further East.

The man who now secures a section or two while land is cheap will act wisely. Lands may be bought as low as five dollars per acre, and even lower in exceptional cases, though many quarter sections sell from one to two thousand dollars. In a few years twenty-five dollars per acre will be a low price. Young men in the East, who can command a few thousand dollars, will need to look a long time before they can find a better field for investment.

By the law of Dakota the following property is exempt from execution for debt: Homesteads, one acre if within a town plat, and 160 acres if not, with house and appurtenances unlimited in value. Exemption is absolute except as to taxes, mechanics' lien for work on the homestead, and debts created for the purchase thereof. Personal property exempt, \$150, besides wearing apparel, books to the amount of \$100, provisions for one year, family pictures, etc. Real estate or personal property is liable for its pur-

chase money; otherwise the exemptions are as above stated. Married women retain their real and personal property, and may make contracts, sue and be sued as if single. Neither husband nor wife has any interest in the property of the other. Dower and courtesy are abolished.

In his "Land Laws" Henry N. Copp gives some advice to emigrants in which he says :

"When you seek a new country go to a territory whose officials appreciate churches and schools; where taxpayers perceive the fact that every dollar spent in education and religion is a saving of two dollars on the jail and penitentiary; where newspapers are numerous and libraries have been started, and literary, temperance and other societies are encouraged by leading citizens. In sparsely settled regions in the territories where society is not fully organized, much cannot be expected in the matter of education and religion, but the tone and sentiment of the people may be taken as a sure index of the future."



Who Should Come to Dakota.

ARE you a farmer cultivating rented land, each year giving away fully one half your honest earnings? Come by all means. It has been said that no man has a home until he owns one. Here in North Dakota are millions of acres of rich, vacant lands waiting for an owner. Get a farm of your own, and in a few years you can be monarch of all you survey.

Do you own a small farm, on which by the strictest economy, and most frugal cultivation you can barely eke out an existence? Sell it. Come to Dakota where you can get a large boundary of productive land for simply occupying it, and that without even paying the taxes on it for the first five to eight years, as in the case of homestead and tree claim.

Have you a team and no lands? Come and buy a breaking plow and wagon; you can earn from four to eight dollars per day with it and find steady employment, and at the same time get the benefit of acquiring for yourself a farm from the public domain.

Are you a poorly paid, hard working mechanic who has to stretch material to make ends meet each year? You too, are wanted to help with your labor and skill to build up the hundreds of flourishing towns, and receive therefrom remuneration that with careful handling will soon purchase you a good home.

Are you a merchant doing business in an old over-crowded community where it requires more time to collect bad debts than it does to daily invoice your stock?

There is room and opportunity here for you. Box your stock of goods and come with them to Dakota; start in some of the new and growing towns and villages, several of which I will point out to you in the following pages of this book, and you, too, with energy and push, the get-up-and-get-there-Eli spirit you will naturally absorb before you are here many months, soon earn your way to success and comfort.

If you are a capitalist anxiously waiting for good investments, you are losing hundreds of dollars daily neglecting to invest capital in rich, broad

acres, substantial business blocks, mills and factories, from which you cannot fail to receive large dividends.

The above statements are conclusive reasons why any one of nerve and will power must succeed in Dakota.

Why?

Because no industrious, sober man can fail to prosper here.

Because labor applied to the virgin soil creates wealth rapidly.

Because there are new and good openings for business talent.

Because mechanics are in demand to erect new structures and establish new shops.

Because a farmer can get 160 acres of good land for nothing by homestead residence, and can buy railroad land adjoining on long credit and at a low price.

Because values of property are all the time increasing with the incoming of population, so that a small investment made now will soon become worth ten times its cost.

Because the climate is healthful and invigorating.

Because the people are energetic, hospitable and intelligent.

Because schools, newspapers, churches and railroads keep pace with the settlement of the country.

And finally because a man counts far more than in the crowded communities of the East, and gets more enjoyment out of life.

The facts are that the average working man out West is better fed, better clothed, and enjoys more true independence than the average working man East. If you don't believe it go and see. Again, your children have a better chance. Away out on the prairies they grow up to be men and women, knowing very little of the terrible sufferings of city tenement house life, or its evil influences. City squalor has no charms; but in the two-room Western cottage, surrounded with flowers and breathing an atmosphere that brings joy with every zephyr, there is a feeling of contentment that cannot be described.—GEORGE R. SCORR in N. Y. Witness.



HO! FOR DAKOTA! NANCY ANN.

Say, Nancy Ann! Let's sell the farm and to Dakota go,
We certainly can't come to harm where land is free you know.
Just at the present, Nancy Ann, our homestead here will bring,
Enough to pay the mortgage off. Dod gast the pesky thing!

Go, fetch that sock from 'tween the ticks; let's see how much we've got
Laid by to reach that next note with; five hundred to a dot!
Besides, we've got the team, you know, and there's the brindle cow,
There's Cherry, too; and Crimble-horn—your heifer, too, I vow.

Four fair to-middlin' shoats we've got, of chickens sev'ral score,
Of wagons, plows and harnesses, we don't need any more.
About a car load, take them all; of things we need to take,
With what we'd pack in chests and trunks, a fair outfit would make.

Now let's look back a dozen years and see how much we've gained,
How working, slaving, we have pinched, how ev'ry year we strained
To meet the payments on this land, the interest as well,
And still we lack a thousand cool, those mortgage notes will tell.

Two hundred dollars in a year is all we've ever made,
Above our interest and our bread, and that has only paid
But just one note of all the ten, as each year same and went
While scarce a nickle or a dime, have we for pleasure spent.

We've rose and went to bed at night exactly with the sun
I've milked the cows and ploughed the land, and you have wove and spun;
We've read the county newspaper, each Sunday afternoon,
And tho't we'd got the latest news from both earth and moon.

But while we've milked and ploughed, and wove and spun our lives away,
The mighty West developing, has grown on day by day,
Till regions that when we were young, were marked as "unexplored,"
On maps we studied, now are States, with splendid records scored.

The Mississippi river now no longer marks the place,
Where Indians and white men met, in bloody death's embrace,
Instead of that, an hundred leagues, now fairly intervene,
Between its banks and solitude, as reading here I've seen.

Somebody, wife, has sent me this, a paper from out West,
And here's a map came with it too, to help explain the rest.
Law-sakes alive! Why Nancy Ann! This map here makes it out,
That there's as many States out West as down East hereabout.

They've railroads, towns and villages, as thick out there as here,
I do declare! Why, Nancy Ann! We've been as'cep I fear,
Why, there's Dakota as I live; three hundred miles or more
Beyond St. Paul, that used to be almost unknown before.

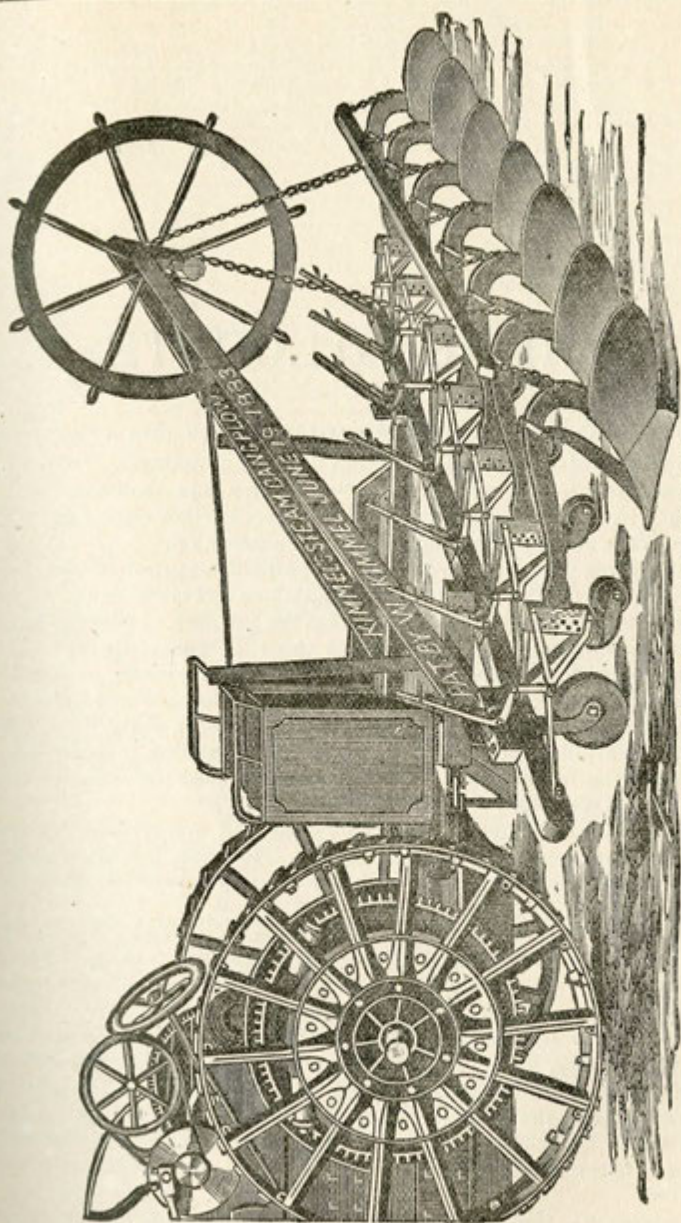
Dakota has its railroads too, it's cities and it's towns,
As thickly sprinkled over it as spots on Barnum's clowns.
Then j-u-s-t s-e-e h-e-r-e! This paper says, "Free homes to all who go,"
And live five years on land out there! That's cheap enough I know!

Then for two hundred dollars more, it says that any man
Can get himself another farm. Let's go there, Nancy Ann!
We'll get us half a section there, worth half a county here,
And what is better we will have no mortgages to fear.

We'll keep the money in the socks, and tell old Gripper Hart,
That he may foreclose on this farm next pay day. Then we'll start
For Wonderland, where farms are free, where farmers are not slaves,
Where we can own the land we till, at least enough for graves.

I'm sick of working day and night to fill some other purse,
The East is not the place for me, Dakota can't be worse,
So pack the traps, dear Nancy Ann. I'll go and see old Grip,
And tell him where we're going to, and then to—let 'er rip.

—EXCHANGE.



CAMBRIDGE CITY IND.

A. S. HOUGH, GENERAL AGENT, FARGO, D. T.

WHERE TO LOCATE.

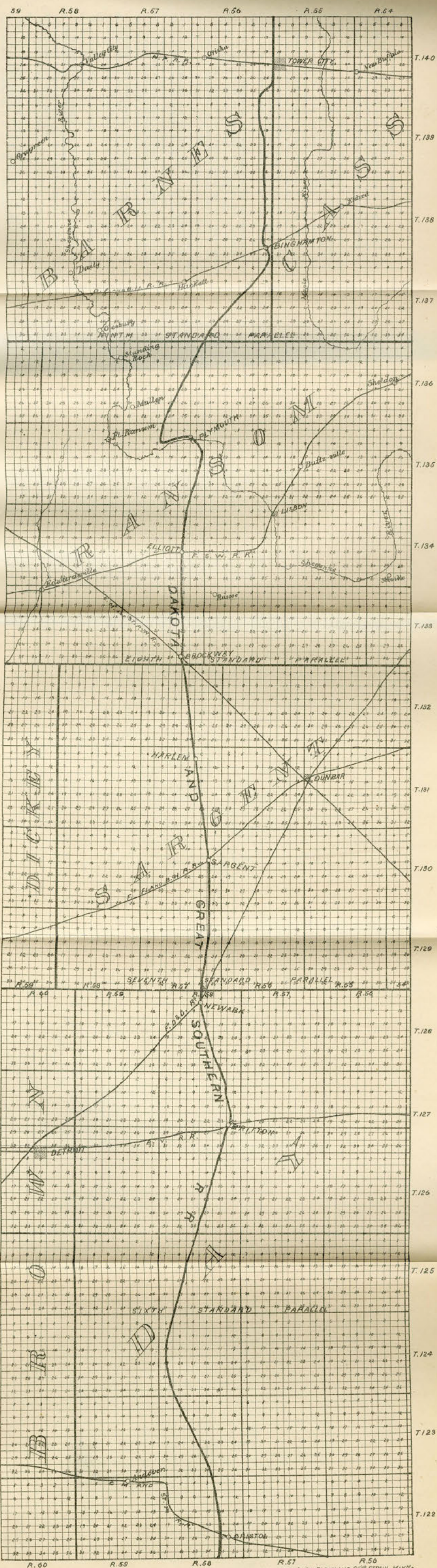
IN the preceding pages I have endeavored, briefly to give a comprehensive general idea of the Territory and its many advantages. In doing so I have avoided everything of a "boom" character fully realizing that any evasion of truth or exaggeration of facts in this connection cannot fail to detract from the character and purpose of this publication.

The following pages are devoted to that particular portion of the Territory tributary to the proposed line of the Dakota and Great Southern Railroad now in course of construction, not for the purpose of advertising the Railroad, or officers, but for the fact that the road passes through and is fast developing the best portion of the Territory and is so far as concerns the character and productiveness of the soil, Topography and location of land, the rapid settlement and improvement of farms, and the class of people who are availing themselves of the rare opportunities presented along the line for the acquirement of valuable homes almost without money and without price, the best portion of Dakota.

In Day and Sargent Counties the land came into market about one year ago, and is consequently considered "new." However, it is astonishing to see the improvement of farms that has been accomplished in that short space of time.

The Dakota and Great Southern Railway was chartered in August, 1883, under the general laws of the Territory of Dakota and is projected to extend from Tower City on the line of the N. P. R. R. in a direction generally south to Sioux City, Iowa, a distance of more than three hundred miles; passes through the counties of Cass, Barnes, Ransom, Sargent, Day, Clark, Kingsbury, Lake, Minnehaha, Lincoln and Union, through the Counties of Cass, Traill and Grand Forks to a point on the Red River of the North at or near the town of Grand Forks, a distance of about eighty miles, with a branch between Tower City and Grand Forks, extending northwest to the Missouri River near Fort Buford and the Montana boundary line.

By reference to the map contained in this book it will readily be seen



59 R.58 R.67 R.66 R.65 R.64

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R.60 R.59 R.58 R.57 R.56
N.B. STRANAHAN & CO. CLEVELAND, OHIO ST. PAUL, MINN.

that with its branches and admirable connections at Sioux Falls and Le Mars, with some of the largest Railroad systems in the United States, the Dakota and Great Southern will become, when completed, the Great South and North Grand Trunk Line.

General Herman Haupt, ex-General Manager of the Northern Pacific R. R. during the month of November, 1883, made a personal examination of the proposed line and the country tributary thereto, traveling by relays of teams along the whole line from Tower City, D. T., to Sioux City, Iowa. In his printed report of his observations, made to Geo. H. Ellsbury, First Vice-President of the D. & G. S. Ry. Co., he says: "After making careful examinations of the soil and subsoil as exposed by the excavations of the surveyors at the mounds raised at section corners, the conclusion reached has been that a section of country which is better adapted for settlement, or better able to support a railroad does not exist on this continent."

Writing of the connections and extensions of the line General Haupt says: "At Grand Forks the line connects with steamboat navigation on Red River, and by affording a new and independent outlet to Sioux City, Chicago, St. Louis, Cairo and New Orleans, there can be no question that the growth and commercial importance of Grand Forks will be greatly stimulated. The proposed new outlet will emancipate the Red River Valley from the fetters that now control its traffic. It will lead to the establishment of warehouses and elevators for the whole distance between Fargo and Winnipeg, where grain can be stored during winter and upon the opening of navigation be sent in boats and barges to Grand Forks for shipment to new markets. No. 1 hard wheat is now almost unattainable south of Minnesota, where its great importance to improve the grade of southern manufactured flour would always enable it to command an extra price.

Proceeding south from Grand Forks in this line via Tower City four of the lines of the St. Paul, Minneapolis and Manitoba will be crossed.

The fifth crossing will be that of the Northern Pacific R. R. at Tower City.

The Sixth crossing will probably be at Binghamton by Duluth, Fargo and Black Hills R. R.

The Seventh railroad crossing will be that of the Fargo & Southwestern at Elliott eight miles southwest of Lisbon.

The Eighth railroad crossing will probably be a branch of the Chicago, Milwaukee and St. Paul at Brockway.

The Ninth railroad crossing will be a branch of the Northern Pacific at Sargent.

The Tenth railroad crossing will be the Fargo, Detroit & Deadwood R. R. crossing at Newark, Day Co. The N. P. R. R. also have a survey from Milnor southwest, crossing the D. & G. S. Ry. at this point.

The Eleventh railroad crossing will be the Browns Valley R. R. at Britton, Day County.

The Twelfth railroad crossing will be the Hastings & Dakota branch of the Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul R. R. near Bristol in Day County.

The Thirteenth railroad crossing will be that of one of the east and west lines of the Chicago & Northwestern system at or near Clark, Clark Co.

The Fourteenth railroad crossing will be that of another of the C. & N. W. east and west lines at or near De Smet station.

The Fifteenth railroad crossing will be one of the east and west lines of the Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul Railroad in the valley of the Vermillion river.

The Sixteenth railroad crossing will be a branch of the Omaha system, about twenty miles west of Sioux Falls.

The Seventeenth railroad crossing will be another east and west line of the C. M. & St. P. R. R. west of Lennox.

The Eighteenth railroad crossing will be another line of the C. & N. W. system near Beresford.

The Nineteenth railroad crossing will be a line of the C. M. & St. Paul in the valley of the Sioux river.

In addition to these crossings there are other projected roads, that will probably be built, making other connections of the line. The Southern connections with the Illinois Central and other lines as shown on the accompanying map will open direct communication with Chicago, St. Louis, Cairo and New Orleans, besides other prominent Southern points.

In regard to the character of country tributary to the D. & G. S. Railway, General Haupt says :

It is entirely safe to say, and the assertion will be verified by careful examination, that within the limits of the United States a more desirable section of country for railroad occupancy cannot be found than that which is traversed by the Dakota and Great Southern Railroad throughout its whole extent. The soil is a rich black loam with a clay sub-soil. It is almost as rich as the bottom lands of the Red River Valley, but unlike them it is well drained and seeding can be commenced several weeks earlier. The quality of the soil is fully equal to the best on the Northern Pacific at Casselton, Wheatland and Dalrymple, and far superior to that of the valley of the James, which is gravelly and much less productive. The Dakota wheat of the Northern Pacific Railroad is furnished almost entirely from the line between Fargo and Jamestown, but the Dakota and Great Southern Railway will have four times the length of line through lands of at least equal fertility, and through a country that will soon become much more densely settled.

An idea of the settlements along the line of the Dakota and Great Southern Railway, present and prospective, can best be given by comparison with another and well known locality, the conditions of which are to some extent similar. A comparison will be made with that portion of the Northern Pacific Railroad which lies between Fargo and Jamestown. This part of the line occupies the most productive portion of Northern Pacific territory. It is from this portion that nearly all the Dakota shipments of wheat are made. Here are located the Dalrymple and other bonanza farms, and the comparison is made in no spirit of disparagement, but as an argument to prove that if Northern Pacific territory, with the drawbacks and disadvantages to which it has been subjected, has been able to make such wonderful progress in a short time, it is reasonable to expect as much or more of a country of at least equal fertility and with no impediments to rapid settlement and increase of production.

The drawbacks referred to are chiefly two: First, the bonanza farms of 25,000 acres or more under one management. These are worked by an

itinerant floating population, who find employment only during harvest, and then scatter to other localities. They are a barrier to permanent settlement, the money paid out during harvest is carried out of the country, no improvements are made, and no permanent population secured to furnish business for a railroad in the transportation of supplies.

The second serious drawback arises from the fact that after the failure of Jay Cooke in 1873 most of the railroad sections of these Dakota lands passed into the hands of wealthy capitalists, who fixed upon them prices far in advance of Government lands, and who not only made no effort to encourage settlement, but actually discouraged it by fixing prices so high as to be out of reach of ordinary settlers, preferring to wait until the appreciation in values by the labor and expenditures of other parties had reached their prices, and then, in some cases, adding a few dollars more per acre. One gentleman, it is said, secured more than 100,000 acres, which are now selling at \$10 per acre, and numerous other parties have large tracts upon which settlement has been and still is retarded by the high prices at which the land is held. Most of the railroad sections still remain unimproved, while the Government lands are all occupied by settlers.

With all these drawbacks there are now between Fargo and Jamestown omitting Fargo entirely, eleven stations, with an aggregate population of 9,075, or an average of 855 to each station, which represents the growth of about four years.

On the line of the Dakota and Great Southern Railway there are not and never can be any bonanza farms or large tracts owned by individuals and held out of reach of settlement; on the contrary, with the exception of the small portion within Northern Pacific Railroad limits, the whole line of country tributary to the Dakota and Great Southern Railway is occupied by settlers. There is scarcely a single quarter section unoccupied; many of these settlers have taken three quarter sections under the pre-emption, homestead and tree-culture acts, but are willing to sell a portion at low prices to secure means to improve the remainder.

Abundance of cheap land can therefore be found by new settlers, and there is an opening for the safe and profitable investment of capital at eight per cent. or more in loans to settlers for improvements, secured by mortgage on real estate, which such improvements will greatly appreciate in value. This is a field for investment well worthy the attention of capitalists. It would be difficult to find better security, and loans to settlers would lead to rapid development and improvement.

To estimate the probable income to be derived from the operation of a new road is always difficult, and the date must to a great extent be conjectural, but there does not seem to be any more reliable mode of reaching results than to compare with another road actually in operation, the conditions of which in reference to traffic are similar. A comparison will again be made with the line of the Northern Pacific Railroad between Fargo and Jamestown, although, for reasons already stated, the advantages would appear to be greatly in favor of the Dakota and Great Southern. On the Northern Pacific Railroad, west of and not including Fargo, to the valley of the James there are eleven stations, with populations varying from 50 to 2,500 aggregating 9,075 and averaging 855 to a station. There are no intersecting roads except at or near Casselton, and consequently no other feeders up to the present time to increase the volume of traffic.

The tons forwarded from these stations were last year.....	66,360
The tons received were.....	114,029
The passengers leaving.....	59,065
The passengers arriving.....	62,209
Per head of population tons forwarded were.....	7
“ “ “ received.....	15
“ “ “ passengers leaving.....	6 1-2
“ “ “ arriving.....	7

Average haul of tons freight.....	276 miles.
“ “ passengers.....	106 miles.
“ “ rate per mile received for freight.....	2 cents.
“ “ “ “ “ passengers.....	3.4 cents.
Receipts per ton of freight.....	\$5.52
Receipts per passenger.....	3.64
On the same basis per mile the Dakota and Great Southern Railroad should, at the end of four years, furnish per annum:	
Population.....	51,300
Cities and towns.....	60
Tons of freight forwarded.....	359,000
“ “ received.....	569,000
Passengers departing.....	359,000
“ “ arriving.....	332,000
And with the same average receipts per ton and per passenger the results would figure:	
359,000 tons freight forwarded at \$5.50.....	\$1,974,500
569,000 “ “ received at... 5.50.....	3,129,000
332,000 passengers arriving at... 3.64.....	1,208,000
359,000 “ “ departing at... 3.64.....	1,356,000
	<hr/>
	\$7,667,500
Allow expenses 60 per cent., net receipts 40 per cent.	\$3,067,000
Fixed charges (interest on bonds).....	288,000
	<hr/>
Surplus.....	\$2,779,000

It might be difficult to assign any reason why the above is not a fair basis for an estimate of probable returns per annum after four years of operation. Yet the figures are so large that if only one-fifth of the net amount should be realized it would be entirely satisfactory. It might be said that in consequence of the numerous intersecting lines the business will be pooled and divided. This is true, but the pool would only apply to competitive business, and the amount of such business would not be large. The lines would not in general be competitive, and would give as much business as they received; besides, the fact of two intersecting railroads would attract population and make larger business centers in consequence thereof.

In conclusion the General adds:

With every disposition to discover weak points, if any exist, it does not seem possible to reach any conclusion other than that the Dakota and Great Southern Railway, when completed, will become one of the best paying lines in the Northwest. Its traffic will be well balanced. The Iowa and Illinois coals will be carried north and distributed largely at all the connecting points of other roads. The settlers' supplies will move in the same direction, while the lumber from the Red Lake region, via. Grand Forks, will go south, and also the wheat and other agricultural products, and generally with long hauls to the end of the line—conditions favorable to large receipts and economy of operation.

The preliminary survey of the line was commenced in Tower City in August, 1883, and completed at Sioux City, Iowa, on the 4th day of January following, Maj. R. H. L. Jewett, of Faribault, Minn., chief engineer. In September, 1883, a contract for grading twenty miles was let to Job Voak & Co., a portion of which contract was completed before the winter freeze. The work was done between Tower City and Binghamton. Another contract was let to Foley Bros. for a similar amount of grading, which was

done between Sargent and Newark, in Sargent Co. The line between Tower City and Sioux City has been almost entirely permanently located, and a contract awarded to Job Voak & Co. for the grading between Tower City, the crossing of the N. P. R. R., and Bristol, the crossing of the C., M. & St. P. R. R., a distance of one hundred and eight miles. Grading commenced near Newark, Day Co., about the first of May, the party working north and south from that point, finishing more than a mile and a half per day. Track laying will begin at or near Bristol and be pushed north as fast as sections of twenty-five miles of grade are completed. This portion of the line will be in operation in good season to carry to market the crops of '84. Depots and grain elevators will be completed by the time the road is in operation. The policy of the railway company as regards elevators is fully presented in the following extract from an interview with Dr. A. O. Squier, one of the directors, and the general land commissioner of the road, by a Fargo Republican representative, and published in that paper in their weekly issue of the 8th of May. When asked what will be the policy of the railway company in reference to elevators and "special privileges" to certain shippers, the doctor replied:

The policy of the company will be most liberal. It is their intention to develop and encourage settlement of the country tributary to the road. They will grant no exclusive privileges. All will be treated alike. Individuals or corporations will be accorded the right to build elevators for the shipment and storage of grain, all being served precisely the same. A similar policy will govern the establishment of yards for the supply of building material, fuel, etc. The policy of the company will be broad gauge, and the object in view, stimulation of the growth and prosperity of the towns along the line."

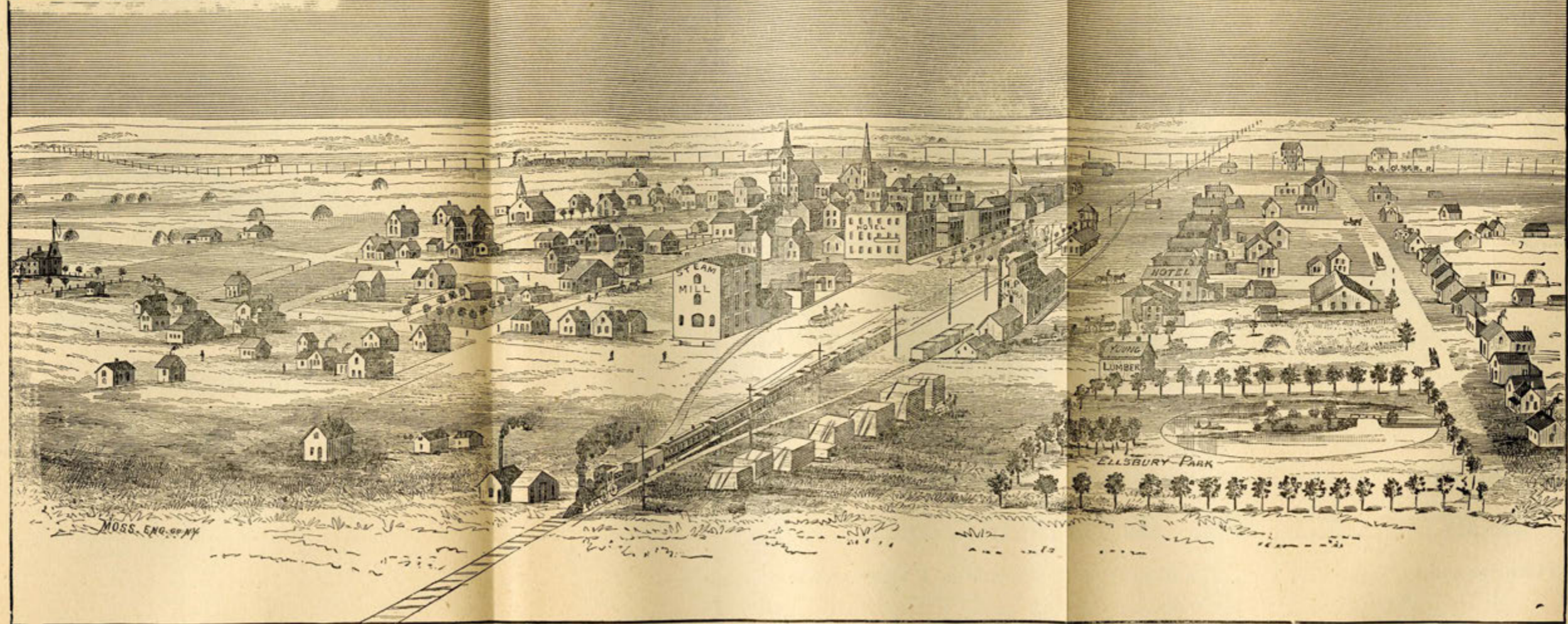
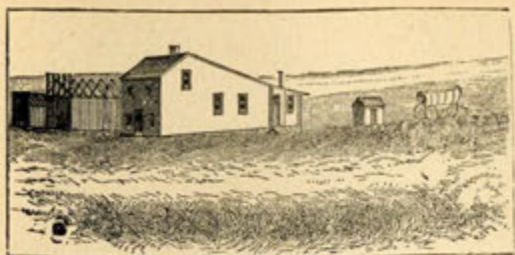
There can be no reasonable doubt of the early completion of this road, because of two reasons. First: The recent development and rapid settlement of that portion of the Territory, now conceded the best, through which the entire line passes, demands such facilities, and they must be supplied. More than one hundred thousand acres of the richest soil in all the great Golden Northwest will in this season yield their first installments of assured wealth to the enterprising husbandman. The enormous product of this vast grain field, even in an ordinary fruitful year, cannot be drawn by teams from 40 to 60 miles to market.

Second: The enterprise and ability of the Company, and the well-known reputation for success of the officers, removes every doubt of the early completion of the whole line, from the minds of all who are acquainted with the facts enumerated. Bids for the construction of the Road south of the C., M. & St. P. R. R. crossing are being prepared, and will probably be accepted within the next thirty days. The directors of the Company are Geo. H. Ellsbury, Tower City, J. E. Wisner, Lisbon, A. O. Squier, Fargo, Isaac Britton, J. S. Wheeler, Sioux City, Herman Haupt, St. Paul, J. W. Stoddard, Dayton, Ohio, and J. M. Childs, Utica, N. Y., of whom, Herman Haupt is President, Geo. H. Ellsbury is First Vice and J. E. Wisner is Second Vice-President, Isaac Britton, General Manager, A. O. Squier,

Land Commissioner, and J. S. Wheeler, Secretary and Assistant Treasurer. R. P. Sherman of Tower City is Treasurer. It is understood that the Company has secured abundant means with which to push the work of construction to an early completion of the entire line, thus giving actual transportation facilities to the people along the line this season.

Having been over the line of survey between Tower City and Bristol, several times, I now propose to act in the capacity of guide to the seekers for homes and profitable investments in towns or country, and beginning our tour of inspection at Tower City, if you will follow me I will point out to you faithfully according to my knowledge and belief, the advantages, and note the disadvantages of each town and the surrounding country along the line as far as Bristol. To enable us to understand more clearly our exact location at all times, I have prepared and lithographed and included in this book a correct diagram plat of the line of the D. & G. S. Ry., showing the exact location even to the quarter section through which it runs between Tower City and the crossing of the Hastings and Dakota branch of the C. M. & St. Paul railroad near Bristol. I am informed that no material changes will be made in this line as it appears on this diagram, made on the authority of Chief Engineer Jewett, except that portion of it between Binghamton and Elliot. As will be observed the preliminary survey crosses the Sheyenne River at a point designated as Plymouth, a post office about eight miles west of Lisbon. The line will probably be straightened at these points, crossing the river at a more practical point, costing, according to the authority of chief engineer of the road, thirty thousand dollars less money in construction alone, to say nothing of additional expense of operating the line.

You will observe that this diagram is five townships—thirty miles—wide and gives the towns, villages, post offices etc., inside that limit. By studying this diagram you can determine the exact location of any quarter section of land lying in this belt. If you know the number of range, township and section, you can easily determine the relative location of any section or quarter section, to the R. R. and towns in the vicinity of such land. If you wish to correspond with any reliable man in regard to the sale or purchase the renting or leasing of any lands or houses along or in the vicinity of this line; if you want to borrow or lend money on real estate or chattels, turn to the advertising pages of this book and find the name of the gentleman in that line of business, nearest the location you specify and write him. Remember, none but first class, reliable advertisements have been inserted in the publication, and the gentleman whose "ads," have been admitted are strictly reliable and the business they desire to call attention to is first class, and gilt edged in every particular. Great care and discretion has been exercised in the selection of the advertisements offered for insertion, and only a very few of the many offered has found a place herein. The purpose of this book being to circulate reliable information in regard to the Territory and its business, everything not in harmony therewith has been carefully excluded.



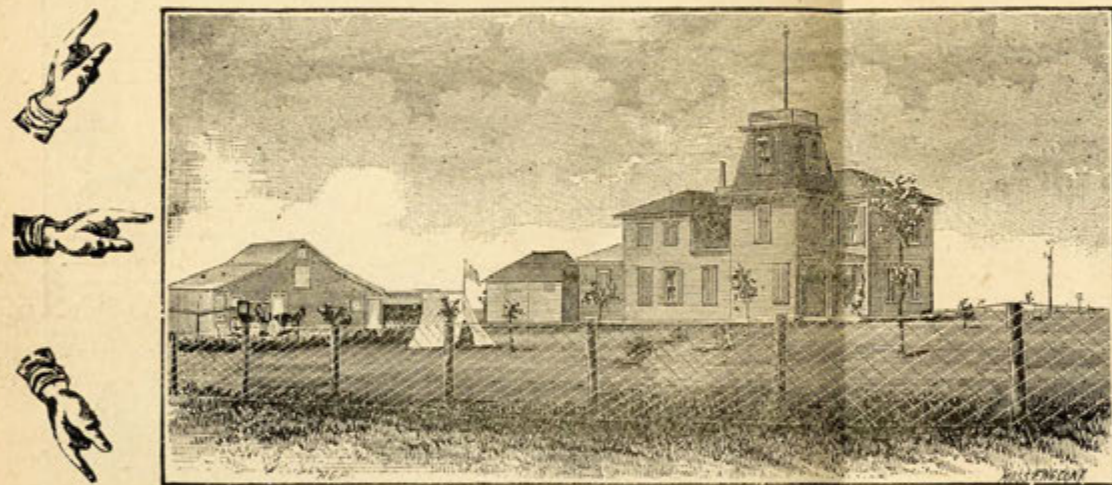
TOWER CITY IN 1879 AND IN 1884

BE NOT DECEIVED!!

By Continuing to Reside in the Overcrowded East, but

❖ COME TO TOWER CITY, NORTH DAKOTA ❖

forty two miles west of Fargo, on the Northern Pacific railroad, and one of the largest towns on the great thoroughfare. Also the location of the general offices of the Dakota and Great Southern railway—now being built from TOWER CITY to Sioux City, Iowa. Population, 800; has 3 hotels, 3 churches, 30 different firms in business, a \$20,000 steam Flouring mill, a public Library of 1,512 volumes, a Medicinal Artesian well, the healing water of which cures rheumatic complaints and a score of other diseases. Beautiful Parks good society and surrounded with the best farming and stockraising lands in the GOLDEN Northwest.



❖ The above engraving of Mr. Ellsbury's home, adjoining, shows one of the many fine residences in Tower City, and shows how a small Homestead can be improved in two years. ❖

❖ If you want to make an Investment write at once to ❖

GEORGE H. ELLSBURY

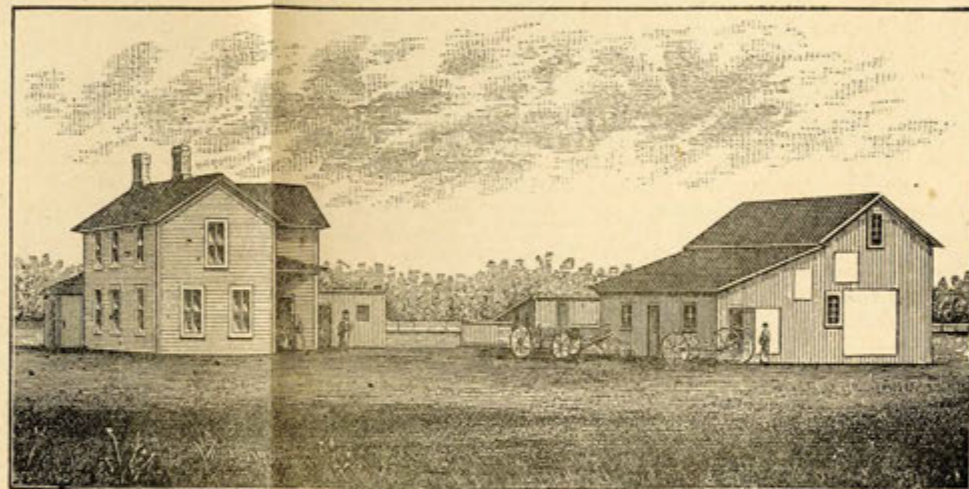
PIONEER DEALER IN WHEAT LANDS, IMPROVED AND STOCK FARMS, AND

❖ TOWER CITY VILLAGE LOTS ❖

FARM LANDS, STOCK FARMS, R. R. LANDS

IMPROVED FARMS, RELINQUISHMENTS,

DEEDED LANDS AND CITY PROPERTY



Henry J. Miller,

DEALER IN REAL ESTATE

TOWER CITY, DAKOTA.

Proprietor of MILLER'S ADDITIONS—1st, 2d 3d and North Side—adjoining, the Original Townsite of Tower City. Splendid opportunities for profitable investment in City Property and Farming and Stock Lands in Cass and Barnes Counties, the Banner No. 1, Hard Wheat Counties of North Dakota. A few Fine Tree Claims for sale. Several sections of N. P. R. R. Lands to dispose of. Correspondence solicited and promptly answered. Write for plats and price lists of Tower City property.

TOWER CITY.

N where in the Northwest is found more emphatic evidence of the good things of Dakota, than in the beautiful city of Tower City, a splendid engraving of which is presented in these pages. Enterprise, thrift, generosity and success combined, characterize the good people, who by united effort, harmonious labor, and common consent, have so liberally and earnestly assisted each other and the worthy founder of the town to build here on this splendid elevation of fourteen hundred and thirty-six feet above the sea level, high above miasmatic influences, and commanding a grand view of surrounding towns and country, an aggregation of comfortable homes, good substantial business houses, churches, schools, parks, etc., etc., the parallel to which has not come under my observations in a town of like population in Dakota. I venture the assertion that there is not a town equal in population in the Northwest, that is so nearly, absolutely free from demoralizing influences and where the citizens contribute more liberally toward the building and maintaining of schools and churches; or to the advancement of the town socially and morally; where quiet and order reigns nearer supremely; where there is less boom or more solid merit than exists in Tower City. This rapidly growing town is located near the western boundary of Cass Co. alongside the Barnes Co. line, forty-two miles west of Fargo and the Red River, on the Northern Pacific Railroad, the great iron thoroughfare that spans the continent from the Atlantic to the Pacific. The founder of Tower City, Mr. Geo H. Ellsbury platted forty acres for the townsite in 1879 purchasing the land from Charlemagne Tower of Philadelphia, Pa., for whom the town was named. The surrounding country had few settlers then, but the rich rolling acres of wide spreading prairie needed not to offer a second invitation to the shrewd and enterprising granger. With the rapid and permanent settlement of the broad fertile acres in the vicinity, came the requirements of trade and Tower City grew; her business increased and her business men prospered. It was not an unsupported mushroom growth of a few short

months, then to sear and decay, but the annual increase in settlement, cultivation and improvement of hundreds of magnificent farms, the produce of which have been wonderful, and tributary to the town, gave increased impetus to every branch of business, and added almost monthly to the number and variety of mercantile establishments until 1883 it became necessary to incorporate the town, which was accomplished by special act of Territorial Legislation.

The town was begun systematically and the idea has been strictly adhered to in all particulars relative to its building, and the government of its affairs. The streets are wide and of easy grade. The parks, (two in number) are conveniently and artistically laid out, and ornamentation happily commenced. These pleasure retreats will in a few years be the pride and comfort of the citizens and the fame of Tower City. One is named Ellsburly Park in honor of the founder of the town, and in just recognition of the untiring and never-ceasing efforts in behalf of the object of his creation. More than four acres are included in the boundaries of this park, the centre of which is a lake having an average depth of six feet of clear, wholesome water. In the centre of this lake is an island fifty feet square planted with ornamental shrubbery. South of the Northern Pacific R. R. depot is Villard Park, named after Henry Villard the ex-president of the Northern Pacific R. R. It is a beautiful lawn with thrifty young shade trees at effective intervals, and generously provided with ornamental flower vases, and an attractive fountain and basin supplied with mineral water from the celebrated Artesian well near by. A band stand on the west, a liberty pole in the centre and a neat fence combine to display the good taste of the people who established this place of ease and who have the care of it.

The greatest blessing and convenience to the people of Tower City is, in my opinion the inexhaustible supply of, pure and healthful water derived from the Artesian well from a depth of nearly seven hundred feet below the surface of the earth. The water flows with great force, and besides furnishing an abundance of the health-giving fluid to daily replenish the lake in Ellsburly Park and forcing hundreds of gallons through the fountain, high in the air, in Villard Park, and standing the drain of the daily requirements of the thousand or more citizens of the town and their stock, besides slaking the thirst and satisfying the curiosity of the stranger and curing the sick and invigorating the invalid, there are thousands of gallons that go to prodical waste. Following I append an official analysis of the constituents of the water:

Sediment.....	none
Solid matter, upon evaporation to dryness.....	189.000
Scale (deposited on evaporation to 1-10 bulk).....	4.894
Silica.....	0.194
Alumina.....	} 0.374
Oxide of Iron.....	
Lime.....	3.604
Magnesia.....	0.114
Carbonic acid.....	not det.

Sulphuric acid, free.....	none
Sulphuric acid, in combination.....	31.990
Chlorine, free.....	none
Chlorine, in combination.....	6.880
Potash and soda.....	residuum

This water is clear and pleasant to the taste, and must substitute all beverages in Tower City, as there are no saloons or venders of intoxicating liquor. It is a temperance town with a large T. In the recent election for license, there were only seven votes cast for and nearly one hundred against license.

Mr. Ellsbery informs me that he is in correspondence with gentlemen who express a desire to negotiate arrangements and privileges to erect at this place a large hotel or sanitarium for invalids, believing there is positive medicinal properties in this mineral water that will become a great blessing to the afflicted. They propose to erect a house with all the modern conveniences to be found in institutions of this kind, including hot and cold baths, Turkish baths, electric and magnetic baths, etc. There can be no well founded reason why this may not become a very popular and well patronized health resort. The natural location of the town is conducive to comfort. The dry, pure atmosphere of North Dakota already has a well-earned reputation as a healer of all bodily ills. The water certainly does contain valuable ingredients, many of which are recognized by the medical fraternity as possessing restorative virtues. There is not another well of like water on the line of the Northern Pacific Railroad, and probably not in the whole Northwest.

The people of Tower City are a Godly and church-going community. Three splendid church buildings, owned and occupied by the Baptists, Methodists and Presbyterians, bear evidence of the truthfulness of the above assertion. These buildings are all attractive in appearance, are well constructed and furnished, and are substantial ornaments to the town. Their respective membership is nearly equal, and in point of number and qualification would do honor to more pretentious churches in larger cities.

The school facilities of the people of Tower City and vicinity compare favorably with that of any town in Dakota, and they are always awake on the subject of education and culture. They spare neither money nor effort to secure the location of institutions of this character. At present they have a good public school building, in which is taught a common or public school. This building is a neat and comfortable one, however. It is fast proving insufficient for the accommodation of the rapidly increasing scholastic population of the town and neighborhood, hence the citizens have recently voted a tax with which to build a large and more commodious school house, bids for the construction of which are now in order. The estimated cost of this building is \$5,000, exclusive of furniture. The building will contain four school rooms, cloak rooms, halls, etc., and will contain all the modern adjuncts of a well furnished educational institution. The Tower University, or Baptist College of Dakota, has recently been located here, to secure which the citizens of Tower City and vicinity have donated \$20,-

000. The building will be commenced during this season, and completed in sections as required. The school will be conducted in a first-class manner by experienced and efficient teachers and officers, and starts out with an endowment of \$100,000 by C. Tower, Esq., of Philadelphia.

A large flouring mill recently completed, with a daily capacity of 150 barrels, is a fitting testimonial to the enterprise and thrift of these people, inasmuch as it was built with home capital. The machinery is of the latest and most improved pattern, and what is known as the Roller process. This valuable property was erected by a joint stock company for the benefit of the town and surrounding country, and can be bought at a reasonable figure—about cost of construction. Located as it is in the midst of the famous region of No. 1 hard wheat, it cannot fail to be a profitable investment and bring large returns to an experienced miller.

The Tower library embraces the finest and most complete collection of standard books that can be found in the Territory. It is a gift from Mrs. Charlamagne Tower, wife of the generous-hearted gentleman who honored the town with his name in its earliest hours of existence and who lets no opportunity pass that enables him to encourage and build up the solid interest of the town and its inhabitants. Fifteen hundred carefully selected and substantially bound volumes by standard authors, embracing fiction, poetry, biography, science, history, art, juvenile works, travels, essays, religion, temperance, reference books, encyclopædias, etc., make a gift worthy the donor, and command the profoundest gratitude of this intelligent community.

The mercantile interests of Tower City are large and prosperous. The good, reliable standing of the gentlemen doing business here, in commercial circles, is not excelled in any town in the Northwest. While they display commendable energy, they seem to carefully avoid allowing their enterprises to depend on "booms" or imaginary future prospects of a "big rush to Dakota." As far as I have been enabled to observe, business is in a good healthy condition, steadily growing with the prosperity and success of the farmers in the country tributary hereto. There are twenty-three business houses, occupied in the different lines of trade as follows:

Dry goods and groceries—E. Chapman, S. H. & E. J. Stearns, H. V. Smith, Wasem & Zimmerman, Nate Patton, Kiff & Son, and E. J. Whittlesy.

Hardware, stoves, etc.—F. Thomas and J. F. Wilcox.

Drugs, chemicals, paints, etc.—Ward Bros., N. Engle.

Saddles, harness, etc.—D. S. Weeks.

Boots and shoes—Thos. Foster.

Furniture—F. W. Mix.

Agricultural Machinery—H. W. Higgins, A. Poe.

Confectioneries, cigars, etc.—Williams & Varney and Harry Smith.

Meat Market—Kanouse & Son and Geo. H. Kenward.

Lumber and building material—E. Young.

Jewelry, clocks, etc.—O. C. Hustad.

Millinery and dress making—Miss Calderhood.

In addition to the above establishments we note The Tower City Bank of R. P. Sherman, doing a regular banking business with correspondents

in the larger cities throughout the East. Three good hotels whose advertisements appear in this book. One good livery stable complete in every particular by B. W. Marsh. Two practicing attorneys whose reliability is unquestioned and to whose cards in this book I call particular attention. Three insurance and loan offices, three blacksmith shops and two cabinet and carpenter shops. One of the largest, best arranged and most complete post offices in Dakota. It is a salaried office and presided over by the prince of gentlemen, Mr. J. E. Williams, Post Master. The office is fitted up with the latest improved call and lock boxes, with the Yale outfit. There are three physicians here, all gentlemen, and eminent in their professions, Doctors J. A. Russell, R. N. Howard and N. Engle. Three coal and wood dealers keep us warm in winter and pocket our spare change when they can. Hard coal sells for twelve dollars per ton and soft coal for eight dollars per ton. Wood sells at prices ranging from four to six dollars per cord.

A grain elevator with a capacity of seventy thousand bushels of grain owned and operated by the Northern Pacific elevator company and managed by Mr. F. H. Warren, handled nearly a half million bushels of grain in 1883, receiving and shipping nearly ten thousand bushels daily during the busy threshing season, thus showing conclusively the kind of farming country surrounding Tower City. The Tower City Herald is a neatly printed, well edited weekly newspaper published by F. M. Cornell, formerly connected with the Rochester (Minnesota) Post. The Herald is strictly a home paper and should be credited with assisting very materially in building up and peopling Tower City and vicinity. Mr. Cornell, the editor and proprietor, is a thoroughly good natured "boomer" and neglects no opportunity to speak a good word in print, for his adopted home. He enjoys for his paper a good circulation and receives a large and profitable patronage for his splendid job printing establishment. To keep thoroughly posted in regard to Tower City and North Dakota subscribe for the Herald. Only two dollars per annum.

With the rapid and permanent growth of the town has appeared the necessity for platting and placing on the market from time to time, additions to the original townsite. Several of these additions have been exhausted and still the demand for good property in Tower City exists unabated. While a majority of the purchasers of lots buy for the purpose of building, some, of course, invest for the profit in the advance of prices of lots, that must and will surely be realized in the near future. At present prices of property in Tower City there are indeed many fine opportunities for reliable and profitable investment. In view of the advantages that will accrue to Tower City in the completion of the Dakota and Great Southern Ry. between this point and Sioux City this season in good time to haul the immense crop of No. 1 hard wheat that is confidently predicted and expected in yield of '84, and the building at the junction here, of the N. P. R. R., the machine shops, engine house, repair shops, and division headquarters of the D. & G. S. Ry.; the successful operation of the fine roller flouring

mills just completed; the building and occupancy of the Baptist College, and the sure returns from the extraordinary large acreage of grain planted. In view of these undeniable facts it is apparent that the influx of population will be greater than during any season in the history of the town, and to accommodate all with property at reasonable figures some of the enterprising gentlemen owning property adjoining the townsite have been induced to plat further additions some of which are now on the market and offer rare bargains to early purchasers. Mr. Ellsbury has platted on the north of town about sixty acres, occupying a beautiful elevation and perfectly drained, which is known as Fairview addition. The lots and streets are admirably laid out, the plat displaying a large number of very desirable business and residence lots. Send to Geo. H. Ellsbury for new plat of Tower City and additions, with revised price list.

R. P. Sherman, Esq., has also platted forty acres adjoining the southwest corner of the city, right along side the D. & G. S. Ry. The streets are wide, and the lots are of convenient size—some for business locations and others suitable in size and location for desirable residence lots. These lots are now on the market and first purchasers get first choice. By addressing Mr. Sherman, care of Tower City Bank, you can obtain plats, prices, lots, and other valuable information free.

Adjoining the southeast portion of the original town site Mr. H. J. Miller has, as necessity required, platted additions one and two so splendidly located in this portion of the city for residence purposes, that the lots find a ready and almost greedy market as soon as platted. Mr. Miller, whose elegant residence will be found herein, resides in this portion of the city himself, and has another tier of five blocks not yet subdivided into lots which he now offers for sale undivided. This tier of blocks joins the second addition on the east, and occupies an unsurpassed location for elegant residence lots. Mr. Miller has expended a great deal of time and cash in grading the streets in these additions before they have been placed on the market. These blocks all lie high up on splendid soil, commanding a wide and positive view of the city and surrounding country. No better opportunity exists on the N. P. R. R. for making large profit on small investment than is offered in the sale of these blocks, that can be bought in bulk and subdivided into lots by the purchaser, and sold at a large margin. Remember this is a rare opportunity,

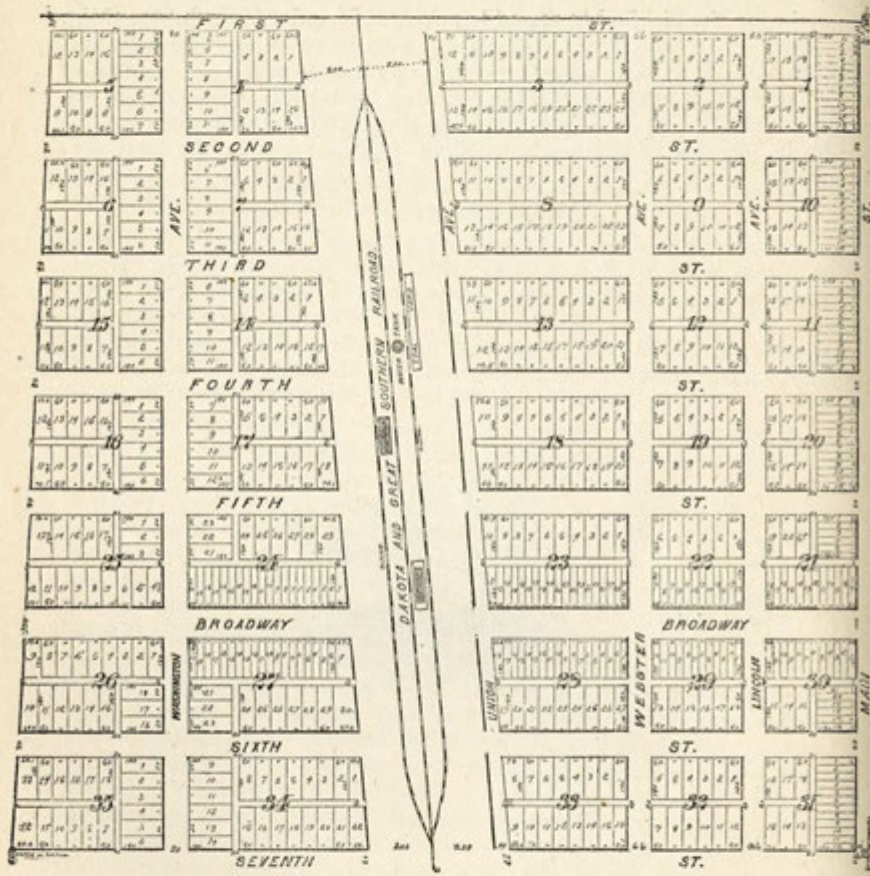
Mr. Miller has also platted his third addition which contains twenty acres and lies east of the town on the north side of the Northern Pacific R. R. Here may be found some very disagreeable building lots on high and well drained situations. On application Mr. Miller will give prices and terms, and will send you a lithographed plat of the additions and of Tower City. See his advertisement.

There are also other additions to the city, being platted, in which the Dakota and Great Southern Ry. is directly interested. One of these is the property of E. L. Bickford Esq, containing forty acres, lying on the east of the town north of the N. P. R. R. This new addition will be lithographed

and the sale of lots placed in the market very soon. It lies in a beautiful elevation gradually sloping to the west and south. A portion of the lots front on Michigan Ave., one of the finest residence streets in the city. This property is very valuable and will no doubt find a ready market. Correspond with Mr. Bickford in regard to prices, etc.

Mr. F. E. Orendorff has also platted forty acres on the west of town, south of the N. P. R. R. and shows some very fine locations for residence property which will soon be ready for sale. Taking into consideration all the advantages and benefits surrounding Tower City it is reasonable to predict an increase in size and population of 100 per cent in the next six months.





MAP OF BINGHAMTON.

BINGHAMTON.

THIS promising young town, a namesake of the thriving town of same name in New York state, is located about forty-two miles west of Fargo and fourteen miles south of Tower City at the Junction of the Dakota and Great Southern Railway with the Duluth, Fargo and Black Hills Railroad. Like Tower City, Binghamton occupies a splendid location right on the line between the counties of Barnes and Cass, two of the banner wheat-producing counties of North Dakota.

The surrounding country in both counties is rolling, fertile prairie. The soil to a depth of from two to three feet is a rich black loam possessing all the constituents necessary in the production of cereals, grasses, and vegetables—especially the famous No. 1 hard wheat—underlying which is a strong clay subsoil which insures the land practically inexhaustible for the bountiful production of crops. The surface of the lands in the vicinity of Binghamton being undulating, engineers its own drainage, thus giving to this location and surrounding country the full advantage and benefit of a Red River bottom soil, as rich as the valley of the Nile, without the inconvenience and expense of drainage connected with successful farming in many parts of the Territory. Owing to the elevation of the land and its peculiar properties it can be worked and seeded fully two weeks earlier than Red River lands, on which surface water stands until later in the spring.

There are a great many fine farms well cultivated and improved in the vicinity of Binghamton. All of the Government lands have been filed upon, and a large percentage proved and patent already granted to the present owner. Nearly all of the land is occupied by actual settlers—many of them thrifty, successful farmers, who are industrious and enterprising, plowing and seeding, building good comfortable houses and barns, planting trees and shrubbery, raising poultry and stock and fast approaching a condition of prosperity and independency so rare among the new settlers in the Northwestern Territories. We are still inside the N. P. Railroad limit, consequently every alternate section is railroad land.

Nearly all of this land has passed out of the possession of the Northern Pacific Railroad Company in this locality but is not owned in large tracts and lying uncultivated as in many other localities in the Territory. It has been sold to settlers in tracts ranging from one-fourth to one section each—rarely more than one whole section being purchased and controlled by one man—thus becoming a homestead in every sense of the word as is clearly shown in the value of the improvements and the acreage in cultivation.

Good wholesome water, free from alkali and other deleterious and foreign substances, is regarded as a great blessing in many parts of Dakota, and becomes quite a consideration in the selection of a permanent home. This consideration abounds here and pure healthful water flows from the earth in many places, in bold living streams, while in the absence of springs water equally pure and good is found at a depth of a few feet below the surface in never-failing wells. In addition to these abundant fountains, there are a number of small lakes of fresh water at convenient distances here and there on the prairie, Providentially provided for the convenience of the granger and stockmen.

The native grasses grow luxuriantly in this vicinity, furnishing excellent pasturage on the elevations and an abundance of hay for winter use in the bottoms and small valleys, which can be harvested and taken care of for about one dollar and a half per ton.

Land is remarkably cheap at present in this vicinity, a fact that very much surprised me, considering the quality of the soil and the location of farms. A gentleman offered to sell me a quarter section (160 acres) of as fine land as I have ever seen, ordinarily improved and free from all incumbrances for \$800 or five dollars per acre. On investigation as to the cause of the low prices asked for lands here I find two reasons, to-wit: The first is on account of a great many men having come here early in the settlement of this locality were enabled to use all of their government land rights—pre-emption, tree-claim and homestead. Having acquired title to all of these claims, amounting to 480 acres in all, many of them are willing and anxious to sell either their pre-emption or tree claim, or a relinquishment of the latter in order to obtain means with which to improve the homestead, realizing the fact that is patent here as in the East and South, that a small farm well improved and carefully cultivated is more profitable than large boundaries of wild untenanted lands. Second, a great many young men were attracted to Dakota during the boom of a few years ago, and failing to get profitable employment in stores and offices, sought to console themselves for their disappointment to some extent in the use of their land rights. Many invalids and health seekers during the few months of their convalescence and recovery had recourse to the same privilege and all secured title to from one fourth to one half section of desirable land, simply by complying with the easy requirements of law and the payment of the government price of the land—a trifling sum when compared with the value of the claims. A large majority of these people have returned to their old homes in the East and elsewhere. Many have good paying situa-

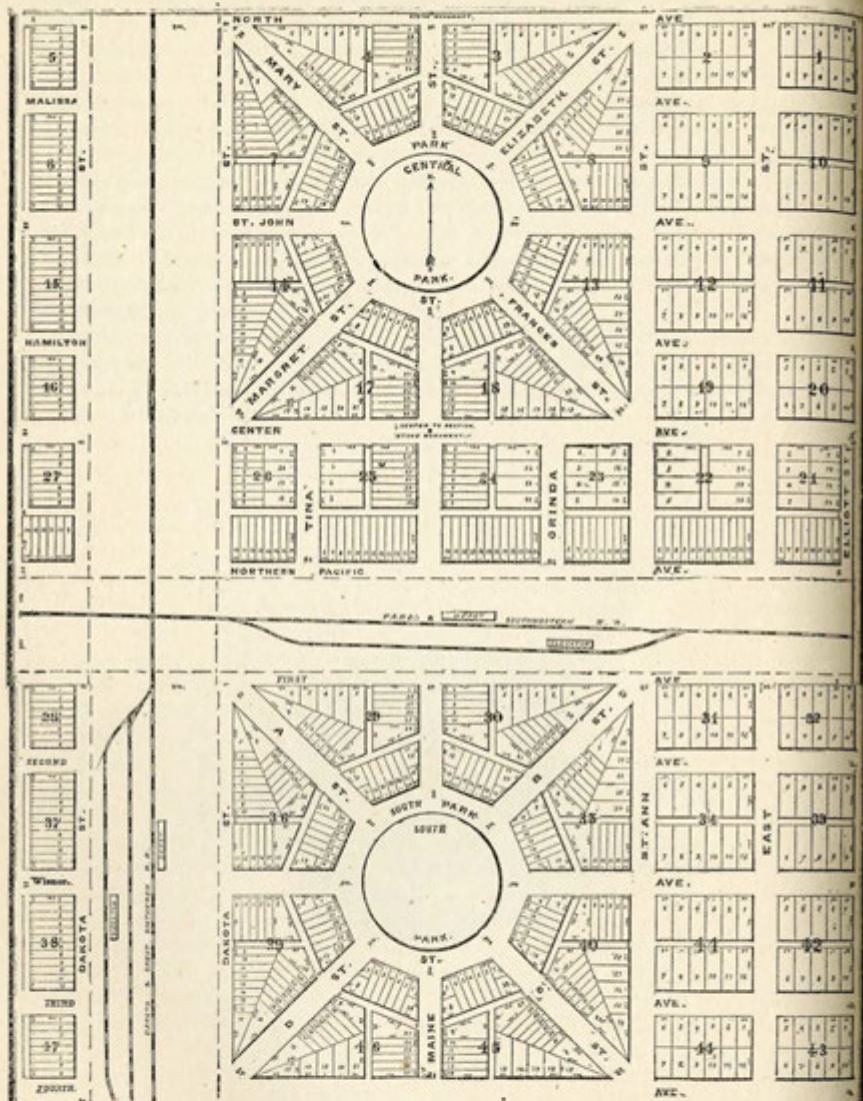
tions there; others control lucrative business and comfortable homes, consequently offer for sale at nominal figures their claims here considering that with the benefits they derived from a year's sojourn in the salubrious climate of Dakota, they are ahead just the proceeds from the sale of these claims. These are facts. I know of several such instances personally. Messrs. Andrews and Delano, whose advertisement appears elsewhere in this publication, have the control and sale of quite a number of these farms, and on application will send you description, price and full particulars, and bear in mind now, that in twelve months from date there will be few acres in the vicinity of Binghamton that can be bought for less than ten dollars per acre spot cash. In addition to the agricultural operations around about here, which are extensive and remunerative, there are a number of large dairy farms, being conducted very successfully, and yielding satisfactory returns. There is a home demand and consumption of their combined products, at prices that make the business very profitable, and in fact the product of a dairy farm in Dakota is largely profit. With free and unexcelled grazing in summer and any quantity of good hay in winter, secured at the trifling cost of cutting and putting in the mow during a leisure season, the expense of keeping cows must be inconsiderable with milk at ten cents per quart and plain unadorned butter at 40 cents per pound. Vegetables of superior size and quality grow and ripen here in enormous yields.

The town of Binghamton is situated upon a beautiful elevation sloping gently to the southwest, reaching a cosy and pleasant little valley of 400 feet in width through which murmurs and gurgles a bright sparkling rivulet, fed and replenished now and then by a score of laughing, bubbling, never-failing springs, crowned by myriads of blue-bells and violets that perfume the air like the sweet incense of self-sacrifice. Binghamton is a real town on terra firma—existing on a firmer substance than the plat of the site, or the ink in the advertisement of its birth and survival. The best school house in Barnes county, two general stores, a warehouse, a blacksmith shop, a post office, and a half dozen or more good residences, all occupied, a large lumber yard keeping constantly on hand at figures that are in the reach of all, every variety of building material, and a handsome three-story mansard roof hotel, neatly and tastefully finished and comfortably furnished already begun are the beginning of the rapid and steady growth of a large town in the near future, else indications lie. The gentlemen who own the townsite are public spirited, enterprising and financially able to build up and encourage the growth of Binghamton as fast as they deem practical and to the best interest of the town and tributary surroundings. They are S. J. Andrews of Ohio, L. P. Delano of Vermont, and M. Webster of Fargo, formerly of Stillwater, Minn., all practical business men and possessing ample means of every practical purpose in connection with the growth and improvement of Binghamton. From the best information I have been favored with, and I consider it reliable, this town has become quite an important point on the line of the Dakota & Great

Southern Railway, as it will be the junction of this line with the Duluth, Fargo and Black Hills Railroad, the completion of which from Fargo to this point during this season is positively promised by the management and being fourteen miles from any other town gives a very large area of productive country necessarily tributary to the business and shipping at Binghamton. Large elevators will be required to handle the immense crops that must center here, and the two railroads being owned by separate companies and managed by different officers will insure the building of at least two grain elevators, thus giving the farmers the benefit of competing prices and a choice of markets—either St. Louis or Duluth. A line of daily stages from Tower City to Binghamton is promised at an early day. However conveyance can be readily obtained at Tower City on short notice by applying to the stable of B. W. Marsh.

For further information, and for plats and price lists of the town of Binghamton call on or address any of the following parties: M. Webster, Fargo, J. E. Williams, post-master, Tower City, Andrews & Delano, Binghamton, Dakota.





MAP OF THE TOWN OF ELLIOTT.

ELLIOTT.

OUR next town is the peculiarly platted town of Elliott, located in Ransom County about eight miles southwest of Lisbon and about sixty miles from Fargo, on the line of the Fargo & Southwestern Railroad now in operation, and at the Junction of the Dakota & Great Southern Railway. The town site now platted is owned and controlled by Thomas M. Elliott, Esq., one of Ransom County's bonanza farmers, and for whom the town is named. In platting the town site Mr. Elliott executed the counterpart of the plan of his home town in the Dominion of Canada, and while the plan is rather novel, the plat presents a pretty picture, and has the merit of being unlike any other town on the line of road. Fill, in your imagination, every block forming the circle around the Parks with good, substantial business houses and neat, attractive residences, and people the town with three to five thousand active, busy population; dot thickly the streets and thoroughfares with teams drawing into town heavy laden vehicles burdened with the liberal products of the thousands of fertile acres of well improved farms tributary to the town, and returning to their homes loaded with the necessaries of a comfortable living—a happy, prosperous and contented people, contributing by their industry and intelligence to every substantial interest and improvement of the town that shall be their pride and the surrounding country that will be their inheritance, and you have the outline and shadow of the picture, that will in reality ornament Tom Elliott's town site in the near future. I believe it. Why? For many reasons, all founded on fact and dependent alone on a personal knowledge of the advantages and causes that must effect the above result.

I am informed that in accomplishing his designs for a handsome, attractive town, Mr. Elliott will use his influence to have the business portion of the town, as far as practicable, built up on one side of the Dakota & Great Southern Railway and the residence portion on the other side of said Railway. Hence the plan of the two parks. This idea, if successfully

carried out, will greatly add to the beauty of Elliott. Had nature been in the townsite business, and her office that of furnishing locations, she could not have presented one so positively free from every objectionable feature and combining in so large a degree the necessary requirements that are acknowledged in the site of Elliott even though she had been hunting a competitive location. Elevated and naturally drained, Elliott presents attractions not enjoyed by every townsite. It is situated in the midst of that portion of Ransom Co. known as the Fort Ransom reservation, a fact that is conclusive evidence of the superiority of this vicinity, in the minds of every one acquainted with the country. No finer farming lands have been cultivated in the Territory, and no settlement presenting a better class of farmers or more valuable improvements in the Northwest. Ransom county has earned a valuable record by her annual production of No. 1 hard wheat and in fact all the cereals. Probably a larger percentage of all the land—both Government and Northern Pacific Railroad lands—is under cultivation in this county than any county inside the railroad limit. This very fact contributes largely to my favorable opinion of the future growth and prosperity of the town of Elliott. Being located at the crossing of these two important lines of railroad—one a south and north trunk line, owned and operated by an independent company, whose interests will be best served in maintaining and operating an independent system, affording a direct southern outlet by the way of Sioux City, Iowa, to St. Louis, Missouri, and New Orleans, Louisiana, or Chicago and the East via Lemars and the extensive lines of the Illinois Central Railroad system; the other a southwestern line from Fargo extending to the Missouri river in the West and northeast from Fargo to Duluth on the Lake, thus furnishing a direct line of cheap transportation to eastern markets. The almost equal facilities for reaching the two great markets of the United States—the eastern and southern, will of course develop early in the history of this new town, a sharp competition in handling and shipping the vast yields of native products. Large grain elevators, owned and operated by distinct companies will respectively do their utmost courtesy to secure the major part of the shipping or storing. The producer will be the autocrat and the purchaser the willing and obsequious servant. A sharp competition in prices will continually exist. Low freight and passenger tariffs will encourage the farmer and stock grower to secure the maximum yield of products, and will encourage and build up business in every line, besides establishing new trades and occupations. Large and commodious passenger and freight depots for the necessary accommodation of the large and continually increasing traffic of these connecting lines and the daily transfer of freight and passengers must be speedily provided. Business in every line must prosper and grow from the beginning because the growth and rapid development of that portion of the country and surrounding Territory will demand every facility that can be afforded in the different mercantile avocations. The novel plan of Elliott will attract visitors and secure investors. The beauty of the town as it grows; the conveniences and the pleas-

ures of the handsomely ornamented parks on either side the railroad; the superior altitude of the townsite; and the healthfulness of the locality will make this town famous. Although the plats of the site are barely out of the hands of the lithographer many lots have been sold, and principally to parties who will begin as soon as practicable the erection of business houses and residences. A school building and a large store house just completed mark the beginning of improvements. A blacksmith shop and livery stable are promised soon. There are at present some rare opportunities for parties seeking business locations. I would mention particularly a drug store and good practicing physician, a hardware store, an agricultural implement and seed ware house, a good hotel, a meat market and bakery, a good boot and shoe maker and repairer, a carpenter and cabinet shop, a harness shop, family grocer, etc. Those who first avail themselves of these opportunities will secure many advantages, that will not prevail later on in the growth of the town.

Mr. Elliott, the proprietor, is a wide awake business man—enterprising and generous, and will give rare inducements to good locators in this town. Men who possess the ability and capacity to help build up the business interests of Elliott will find the proprietor ready, willing and waiting to recompense them for every effort in the proper direction. The Dakota & Great Southern Railway will doubtless be in operation as far as Elliot early in the fall, in season to transport the beautiful crops, predicted in '84. Until the road reaches the town lots will be sold at prices that must give to the purchaser a handsome margin in a short time. After the cars are running property will enhance in value, and the price list now in circulation will be revised and the price of lots increased according to location, hence it will be seen that now is the time to buy while you have a large number of desirable lots to select from. By referring to the plat of the townsite in the beginning of this chapter you can without difficulty determine the most important lots and those best located, according to their relative position to the more prominent streets, the depot and the parks. Write to T. M. Elliott, Elliott, Ransom county, D.T., for plats and price lists, and for any information you may desire in regard to the town or vicinity. He will answer you promptly and you can implicitly rely on any information received from him. To reach Elliott by public conveyance, come to Fargo and from thence to Elliott on the Fargo & Southwestern Railroad. Lisbon is the county seat of Ransom county, and is of the banner towns of North Dakota. One year ago the Fargo & Southwestern Railroad was completed from Fargo to Lisbon, then a small village, now a thriving town of two thousand inhabitants, presenting a live, enterprising business appearance, with a class of buildings, and an arrangement of streets that would do credit many larger towns and cities in the states. Every line of mercantile business finds abundant success here. There are four good hotels. The Lacelle House is noted throughout the country for the splendid accommodations and the reasonable rates given. It is convenient to the depot, express and telegraph office and is largely patronized by the new

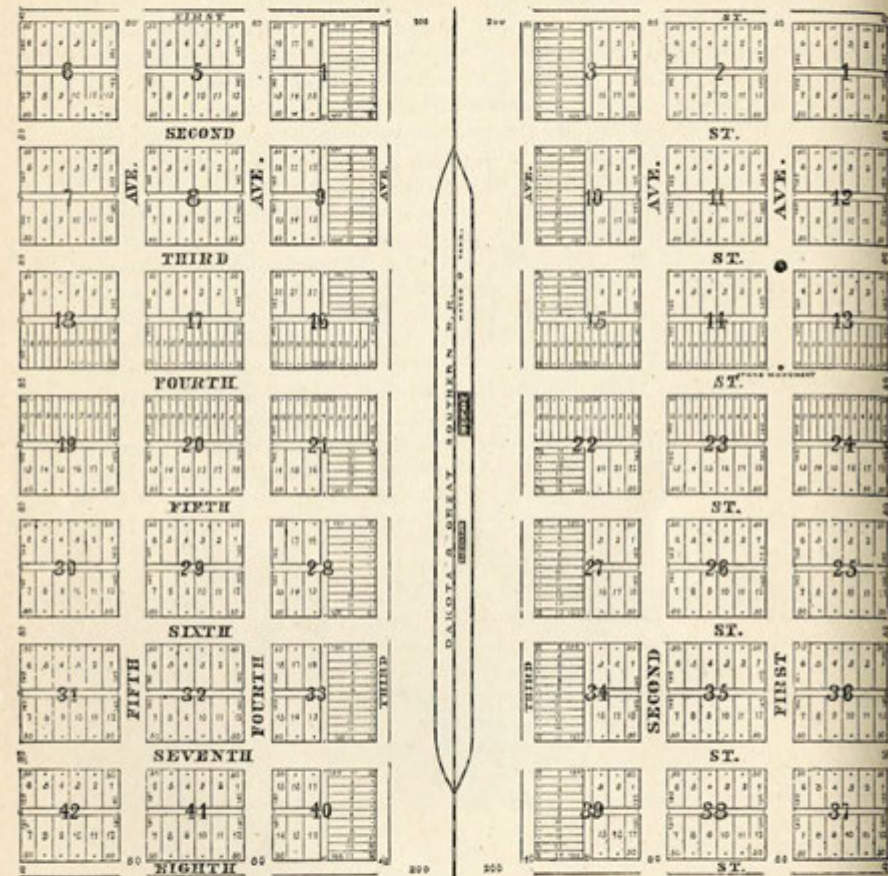
settlers just arriving in the Territory and by the commercial travellers. When you have stopped at the Lacelle House in Lisbon you always remember with pleasure the courteous treatment you received and the urbanity of the genial proprietor, J. D. Lacelle, whose card appears elsewhere in this book. Among the successful business firms, doing a profitable and rapidly increasing business, that of Marsh & Reinold deserves special mention. They carry a large and complete stock of staple and fancy groceries and of every variety of merchandise connected with their line. They are thoroughly reliable, and make settler's supplies a specialty. Look for their advertisement herein and learn facts in regard to their business. I have not space to mention all the leading enterprises of Lisbon for they are many. In conclusion I would add that the school facilities of Ransom county are justly the pride of her citizens. Large, comfortable and well furnished school buildings are always among the first improvements of each neighborhood and school district. Under the able and efficient management of the superintendent of public instruction of the county, whose card I desire to call attention to, the schools are supplied with good instructors and the very highest degree of success attained. This fact speaks volumes for the intelligence of the people and will no doubt wield a telling influence in the settling of the country.

For plats of Elliott and price list of lots call on or communicate with any of the following parties:

Thomas M. Elliott, Elliott, Ransom county, D. T.; J. B. Folsom, Fargo, D. T.; Dakota & Great Southern Railway Co., Tower City, D. T.



— Brockway Ransom County, Dakota —



SCALE 1/2 IN. = 40 FT.

MAP OF THE TOWN OF BROCKWAY.

BROCKWAY.

THERE is no portion of the great Northwest that affords so many opportunities for safe and profitable investment of money in any sum large or small, as the rich productive region of this Territory, through which the Dakota & Great Southern Railway is being built. The progress and development of this part of Dakota at the present time and during the past twelve months is without a parallel in the development and settlement of any portion of America. Villages platted yesterday are today towns of no mean importance and meagre towns have grown into thriving cities in less time than is required to raise a crop of cotton in the South. I do not exaggerate or abuse truth when I write that the first building, a small blacksmith shop, was erected in Lamoure, a flourishing town at the present southwestern terminus of the F. & S. W. Railroad in Lamoure Co., on the 21st day of April, 1883, the second building on May 10. On July 27, there were in the town, sixty-nine buildings occupied, including five hotels, three groceries, two hardware stores, one drug store, one furniture store, seven gaming establishments, three lumber yards, a live newspaper four weeks old, and the foundation begun for the erection of a forthy thousand dollar hotel, and all the material used in building was hauled thirty-five miles by team. On the 27th day of July the railroad was completed into the town, and one hundred contracts had been executed to erect as many buildings, as fast as the material could be shipped into town by rail. In the month of July, I have been informed, the sales of lots amounted over one hundred thousand dollars, and the total sales at that time approximated a quarter of a million dollars: I have received this information from a reliable source and have no plausible reason to doubt its truthfulness. Immigration has shown a decided preference for Dakota in the past three or four years and as fast as an unsettled locality was surveyed and subject to entry the claimants have promptly appeared to realize the benefits of their Government land rights. As the settlements have grown and their borders have expanded the necessities of the settlers have demanded

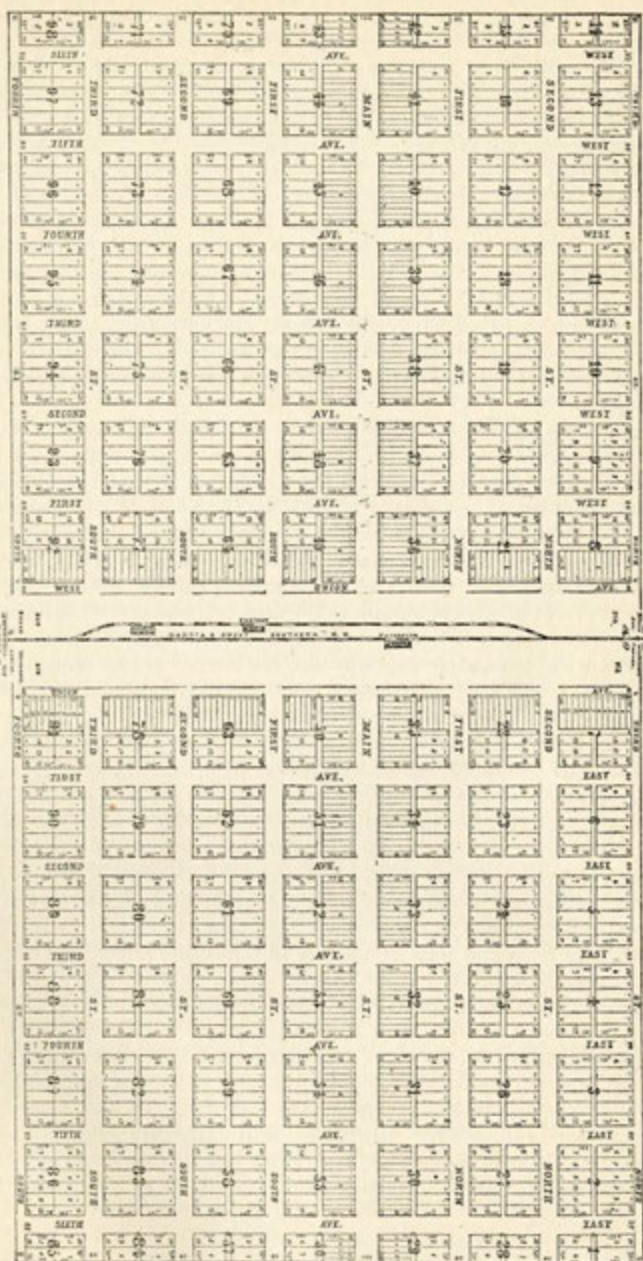
the conveniences of stores and hotels, a post office, blacksmith shop, a newspaper, etc., etc., thus establishing the beginning of a town, and so many of the larger towns and cities of Dakota begun their thrifty and prosperous records. Such a demand exists at the present writing in the productive area surrounding the present townsite of Brockway.

Brockway is situated on section 35, town 133, and range 57, in Ransom county, near the Sargent county line, thus giving the coming town the advantage of trade from both counties. It is about eight miles south of Elliott, which is the nearest neighboring town. The land in the vicinity of Brockway, like that described around about Elliott, is a rich black loam and very fertile—the soil being deep and built upon a clay sub-soil. We are yet inside the limit of the Northern Pacific Railroad land grant, consequently find some bonanza farms, some of the best and largest in Ransom county, having as much as 800 acres in cultivation on some of them. The land here is being improved and cultivated as fast as the means of the owners will admit. The land is very productive and compensates the husbandman for all his labor with large yields of No. 1 hard wheat, oats barley, flax, hay and vegetables. When the Dakota & Great Southern Railway is completed it will give a fresh impetus to agricultural pursuits in this locality as heretofore the producer has been compelled to draw his products by team to Lisbon, a distance of nearly fifteen miles, notwithstanding the fact much of the land around about Brockway is in cultivation and the improvements will compare favorably with those of any locality in Ransom county. The general surface of the lands in this vicinity is rolling, though not hilly, and even on the highest land the native grasses grow abundantly while in the depressions and around the small lakes large quantities of valuable hay, sufficient for every requirement, can be harvested annually at a trifling cost. Appreciating these blessings some of the far-seeing and intelligent farmers are devoting a portion of their energies to raising stock, a branch of farming that is proving very profitable in many localities along the line of the Dakota & Great Southern Railway, thus diversifying the character of their products and abrogating the necessity of being compelled to depend altogether on one crop for the profit of their farms. Realizing the benefits of railroad transportation which they are soon to enjoy, land owners in this locality will break thousands of acres of prairie this season and put it in proper condition for a first crop in '85. All of these facts combine to prove the fact that the early and rapid growth of the town of Brockway is an absolute necessity. A good depot must be erected, ample sidings constructed and an elevator of more than ordinary capacity must be built before the threshing season. I have been informed recently that negotiations are pending for the purchase of several valuable lots here, on which will be built good business houses. I have heard it predicted by officers of the Dakota & Great Southern Railway Company that a town of 600 to 800 inhabitants will readily grow up on this town site in the near future. I asked the gentleman to state the grounds on which he predicted. He replied: "Large houses and commodious farms to be

seen in every direction standing on the town site at present, indicate veritably the prosperity of their owners and occupants. The large area of land just seeded in this vicinity and which, judging from yields of previous harvests will produce an average of twenty bushels of No. 1 hard wheat and sixty to seventy bushels of oats, and a large crop of barley, must stimulate and almost force the growth of Brockway, to the limit of population I have mentioned within the next two years. A large quantity of wheat and other products must be shipped from this point, the vast army of settlers must have supplies such as provisions, fuel, lumber and building material, all of which will be laid down in Brockway at prices that for cheapness have been unheard of in North Dakota, and which will create for such supplies, especially building material, an increasing demand each year. These are some of my reasons for the prediction; I could enumerate others equally good."

In view of these facts is it unfair to add that good opening for business exists in Brockway. A demand evidently is growing here for the presence of the merchant, the mechanic and the professional man to join interests and harmoniously labor together to build in the name of Brockway a town that in point of size and character shall be worthy of the surrounding estates. Success is certain if the proper effort be made. Here is a beautiful townsite laid out systematically in broad streets and lots of proper size and shape. Wells of good wholesome water may be obtained by digging a few feet. As will be seen by referring to the maps and diagrams herein, another railroad is headed this way and the survey passes almost through the townsite. This road will give us increased railroad facilities, and competing markets. The grain buyers of Minneapolis and St. Paul will be brought directly in competition with those of St. Louis, thus insuring the highest market prices for the grain shipped from Brockway. Parties desiring to locate in business in a promising young town will do well in corresponding with A. H. Laughlin Esq., Register of Deeds for Ransom county, Lisbon, D. T., who is the owner of this townsite. I have had the pleasure of meeting Mr. Laughlin, and have found him a courteous, high-toned and liberal business man, whose word is his bond, and whose reliability and responsibility is a fixture in the minds of all acquainted with him. He also buys and sells improved and deeded lands and town lots, writes insurance, loans money, furnishes abstracts of title, and conducts a general real estate business, as his advertisement on another page indicates.

For all particulars relative to Brockway as well as plats and prices of lots, write to or call on A. H. Laughlin, Lisbon, D. T., and remember that now is the time to invest in townsites along the line of this road, before the completion of it "booms" the prices fully fifty per cent. which will surely occur. Information, plats and price lists of Brockway may also be obtained from the Dakota & Great Southern Railway Land Co., Tower City, D. T.



MAP OF SARGENT.

SARGENT.

IN the summer of '83 a town was located, surveyed and platted on section 13 and 14, township 130 and range 57, in Sargent county. The new town site was christened Blackstone and under the judicious management of the proprietors, in a short time presented quite a village, several houses having been erected. However, after the line of the Dakota & Great Southern Railway had been located through the townsite it became necessary to conform the plan of the town to the location of the railroad, and to effect this change the town of Blackstone was abandoned by proper legal proceedings and the present town of Sargent located and platted instead. The town is named in honor of Homer E. Sargent, ex-General Manager of the Northern Pacific Railroad, from which the county takes its name, as well. Mr. Sargent has invested largely in lots and blocks in the town; this in connection with the fact that he has extensive tracts of land in this vicinity insures his active influence for the good of the town, and which will be a prominent and effective factor in the forces that will naturally combine to make Sargent one of the most important towns on the line of the Dakota & Great Southern Railway. Three hundred and twenty acres have been platted to meet the demand for lots in the coming season. A handsomer plat does not appear in this book than that of Sargent. An equal number of blocks containing a like number of lots lie on each side of the railroad—one on the east, the other on the west. The eastern portion of the townsite lies up considerably above the west half, and is free from surface water in the early spring. The surface of this portion is almost level and slopes very gently to the west and southwest, thus draining itself naturally. The streets as will be seen by looking at the plat are straight and generously wide, the lots are well proportioned and all have parallel sides, thus avoiding triangles and wedge-shaped lots. The streets are all numbered—no "taffy" for any one in the street names. The confidence of those who have investigated the facts in regard to Sargent's future importance as a commercial town is daily attested in the sale of lots and in the construc-

tion of good substantial buildings. These buildings have a permanent appearance and reliably indicate the fact that "they have come to stay." Among these I noticed during my visit there, the completion of a large, comfortable hotel, two and one half stories, with basement, having a capacity for the accommodation of about 40 guests. The house fronts the south, and is plainly discernible from a distance of seven or eight miles. The office, bar, dining room, kitchen and servant's room are on the first floor and are all very conveniently arranged. The family rooms, parlor and guest's rooms are on the second floor and other sleeping apartments above. The bar is supplied with all the choice and extra brands of wine, brandies, whiskey and liquors, cigars and tobacco. The table is supplied bountifully with both the substantial and luxuries of subsistence provided regardless of cost or inconvenience, by Mr. A. F. Prentice the genial and courteous landlord and proprietor of the "Headquarters." A well stocked store of staple and fancy groceries, provisions, canned goods, etc., etc., by Ford L. Benton; a livery and feed stable amply supplied with all the requirements of such an establishment, by Geo. Atchison; a live, industrious and reliable real estate business ably and efficiently conducted by two as pleasant and affable gentlemen as it has been my good fortune to meet, Geo. S. Montgomery and F. L. Benton. Mr. Benton has recently completed a neat residence that largely ornaments this portion of the town. The Sargent Scribe conducted and edited in a commendable manner by Mr. J. W. Banbury the proprietor is a weekly newspaper that richly deserves the liberal patronage it enjoys and its neat and newsy character will exert a wholesome influence in behalf of the sure and rapid growth of the town. These buildings all occupy choice locations on the east side of the Dakota & Great Southern Railway, and in addition to these conveniences are the following necessities: a post office, blacksmith shop, cabinet and repair shop, and like straws show which way the wind blows.

On the west side of the railroad improvement has fairly begun, and the large two story flour and feed store of Rose Brothers gives to that portion of the town a business appearance. This store is one of the great conveniences of Sargent and surrounding neighborhoods because the proprietors keep constantly in stock a complete assortment of every class of goods belonging to their trade. The well earned reputation of these gentlemen assures the success of all their enterprises, wins for them the respect of their patrons and space for a well displayed advertisement elsewhere in this book to which I call attention. Take a look at the Sargent department of our advertisements, and judge of the character of business that is fast building up here. Any one desiring to buy an improved farm that will almost or quite "pay for itself" with the yield of one harvest, or wishing to invest in unimproved or wild lands, grazing lands, and stock farms if you want to use your government land rights by filing a declaratory statement homestead or tree claim, buy or sell a relinquishment, rent or lease a farm, borrow or loan money on good real or personal security, call on or address Banbury & Rourke, Sargent. They will also insure you

against hail and storms, and supply you with the most improved classes of farm machinery, and sell you Sargent lots on application. They are courteous and reliable and will promptly answer all inquiries concerning this great country. Don't hesitate to write them. Read their card on another page.

Good water is secured in Sargent and locality by digging—though it is not found so near the surface as in some sections, consequently the supply is found purer and free from alkali and surface water. Deep wells containing an abundant supply of such water has been provided on both sides of the town.

The many fine farms and large acreage of improved and cultivated lands in this vicinity must contribute materially to the growth of Sargent as their products will build up shipping from this point, of great commercial importance. The lands are thickly settled by a thrifty and energetic class of farmers, who are continually improving their homes and thus beautifying the country. Each year gives the farms a more prosperous appearance and a satisfactory harvest gladdens the hearts of their owners. A picture of a more encouraging farm life, than meets the eye in this locality, does not present itself anywhere in Dakota.

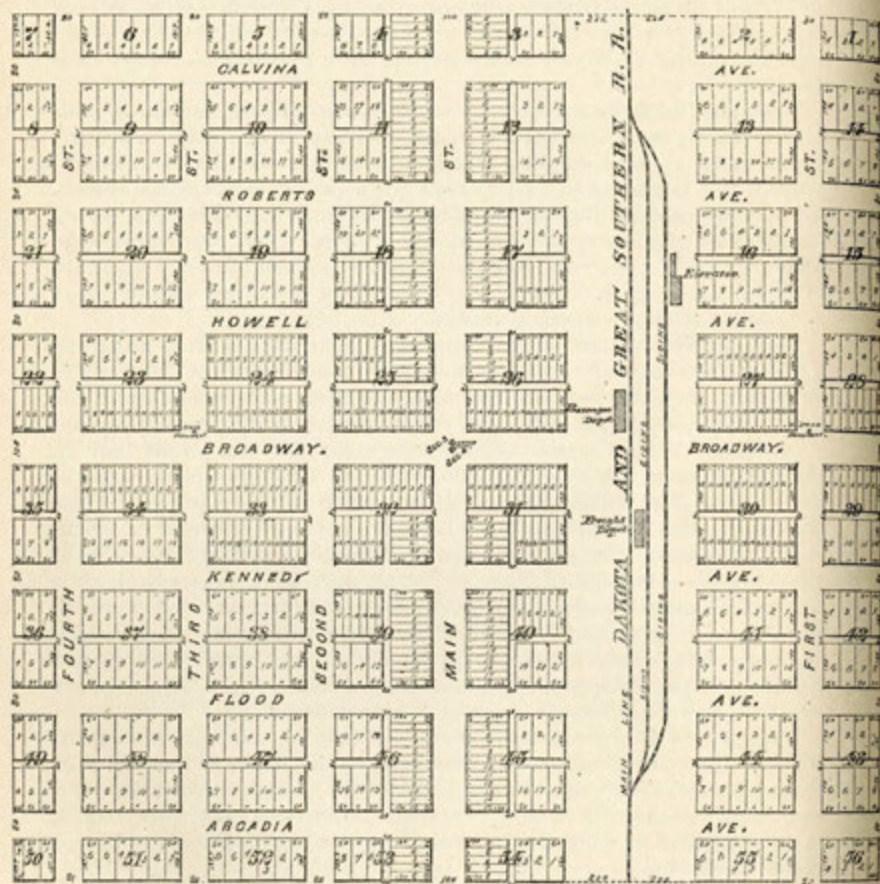
Being outside the limit of the Northern Pacific Railroad land grant, the land has all been subject to entry and little remains vacant today. The splendid crops of last season gave emphatic evidence of the fertility of the soil, and attracted many respectable and industrious settlers to that locality.

In addition to the railroad facilities to be enjoyed by the people here in the completion of the Dakota & Great Southern Railway, the extension of the Wadena, Fergus Falls & Black Hills branch of the Northern Pacific Railroad system has been surveyed through the town site where the grade stakes now stand. The present terminus of this branch is at Milnor, about twenty miles northeast of Sargent. Every indication assures us that the line will be extended and completed to this point, forming a junction with the Dakota & Great Southern Railway as early as practicable, thus providing another valuable outlet to these people. Large grain elevators and warehouses must be erected to handle the immense crops of '84, as a larger area is seeded this season than has been known hereabout.

With the reality of cheap transportation of supplies and building material will dawn an era of improvement along the line of this road that will surprise the most enthusiastic boomer. Truly the golden opportunities for success offered to every class of honest and industrious citizens in Dakota is supplemented no where in the almost limitless boundaries of the United States of America.

Here as in many other localities reached by the Dakota & Great Southern Railway, stock raising is fast becoming a valuable adjunct to other profitable industries. Free grazing and cheap hay renders the business exceedingly profitable. Here, too, sheep can be raised safely and profitably.

—Newark, Day County, Dakota.—



MAP OF THE TOWN OF NEWARK.

NEWARK.

A TALENTED writer in his description of localities in this Territory has said that Day county is a diamond stud on Dakota's bosom. While this assertion is rather poetical and perhaps a "little far-fetched" it is nevertheless a compliment as nearly deserved by Day county as by any other county in my knowledge. It has an area equal to that of Ransom and Sargent counties combined and contains more than forty townships exclusive of the Military Reservation. The land is rolling prairie, a character more distinct here than in adjoining counties, though freer from sloughs and sags. In this country are some more than ordinary elevations. On the west is a range of sand hills, where the soil is too light for agricultural purposes, though well covered with a vigorous growth of the natural grasses. On the east is a range of coteaus or larger hills. The soil in the vicinity of the range and on it is heavier and really productive in the main and especially desirable for grazing. On and beyond these hills is what is known as the Sisseton and Wahpeton Indian Reservation, adjoining which is the Military Reservation. This Indian reservation embraces nearly ten townships in Day county, nearly all of Roberts county, extending south across Grant county and forming two sides of a triangle in Codington county, the point of angle reaching Lake Kampeska. It is pretty generally believed that this large area will be thrown open to settlement soon. When this is done the land will be taken very rapidly, as it is very desirable in most parts, combining good soil with an abundance of fine water and a considerable acreage of timber land. The settlement and improvement of the lands in this reservation will add materially to the wealth and importance of Day county. Lying between the hills on the west and the coteaus described on the east is a broad fertile valley covering a width of about fifteen miles and extending from the northeast to the southwest boundary of the county. This is known as Broad Valley and while the name is appropriate, the word rich might well have been prefixed. The soil in this valley is generally of a dark loam, containing a sufficient

amount of rich black sand to enable the farmer to plant the seed for his harvests fully two weeks earlier than seeding can be done along the Northern Pacific Railroad. There is a noticeable absence here of the sloughs, ponds and water deposits so common farther north. The grasses grow larger and more abundantly though the sod is not so tough as in many other places. There are few if any stones in the land and none that are obstacles to thorough breaking and cultivation. It costs less money and requires less labor to break the sod here, and prepare the soil for crops than in any locality where I have been in Dakota. The subsoil is a stiff yellow clay extending deep down into the earth under which is found a strata of blue clay mixed with lime. The subsoil seems to be peculiarly adapted to the retention of moisture, a fact fully established during the dry season of '83. When vegetation in many places had seared and became perfectly dead, the grasses and vegetables in this locality were as fresh and green as the verdure of early springtime.

In the month of April, 1883, a party from New York state, consisting of nine jolly bachelors including the present proprietors of Newark, Messrs. P. C. Howell, Mortimer A. Kennedy, Geo. E. Flood and Mr. Roberts, pitched their tent on the beautiful elevation now forming a portion of the town site, and were "sole monarchs of all they surveyed." The broad expanse of verdant plains filled the vision in every direction and was only limited by the horizon. But here the thrice three good looking, strong armed wifeless representatives of the empire state determined to plant their vines and fig trees, and resolved to locate each a homestead, against which the cussedness of the claim jumper and the shrewdness of the well paid attorney shall not prevail. Alone and isolated from neighbors and neighborhoods, more than forty miles from a town, post office or village these sturdy pioneers piled up the sod that furnished the rude material for the pioneer shanty, and the smoke that curled from the stove pipe protruding through the sod roof rose not higher than the hopes and ambitions of these enterprising settlers. But the goodly land which they had so happily discovered was not long to remain occupied by a few. Some how its fame spread abroad and home-seekers were plentiful; thus in a few brief months a large majority of all the land that appeared so limitless but a short time before, had been filed upon and the smoke from an hundred shanties of homesteaders, and pre-emptors indicated truthfully the wonderful development of a glorious country, and for miles in every direction the industrious pioneer could be seen from the break of day until the close of the same, breaking and turning the virgin soil, that had reposed undisturbed by the genius of man or the implements of husbandry, through the long ages of past generations, and which is now rapidly contributing to swell the abundant annual harvests of the only Golden Northwest. The borders of civilization expanded and the daily increasing necessities of the settlers demanded improvements of public interest. A post office was established in the name of Newark. A small building was erected for the accommodation of the mails. Though not large this real board

structure actually looked pretentious in its handsome coat of white, being the first and only painted building for miles around. When the Dakota & Great Southern Railway was permanently located the management deemed it expedient to build the line through this locality. Sections 3 and 4, township 128, range 58, adjoining the Sargent county line, were discovered equi-distant between the towns of Sargent and Britton. Here the general manager designated a station and Messrs. Howell, Flood, Roberts and Kennedy caused to be surveyed and platted the present town site of Newark, a namesake of the beautiful town of Newark, Wayne county, New York.

Another of nature's grandest efforts is apparent in the enviable location presented here for the building of a prominent town. The broad streets and avenues, the systematically arranged lots, with wide, convenient alleys, the admirable location of the railroad through the town, separate and distinct depots for the accommodation of passengers and the handling of freight, the location of the large grain elevator, are attractions that cannot fail to bring within the limits of Newark a goodly population to enjoy many advantages not presented by other towns. Newark is forty miles from Lisbon, seventy-five miles south of Tower City, ten miles south of Sargent, and as many miles north of Britton, almost in the centre (north and south) and commanding a fine view of Broad valley, eighteen miles northeast of Detroit, forty-five miles northwest of Webster, and twenty-five miles northwest of Fort Sisseton. There was probably more land broken and prepared for crop during '83 in this vicinity than has been known in any locality on the line of the Dakota & Great Southern Railway during the first year of settlement. Notwithstanding the lands in this township did not come into market subject to entry until early in '83, I am informed that there is at a low estimate about twelve thousand acres prepared for seeding this season. A better and much more expensive class of improvements are noticeable in this vicinity. Large and well-finished houses and barns, granaries, etc., give to the country a well-to-do appearance and very favorably impresses the stranger or home seeker. The settlement tributary to Newark, as regards the class of citizens, has no peer in Dakota. They are industrious and intelligent men and women, whose habits of culture and refinement in their former homes and social positions, the inconveniences and hardships of pioneer life cannot change or disguise. About three and one-half miles northeast we find a prosperous and characteristic settlement of Indiana and Illinois people. Michigan, Maine and New York states are all largely represented in the population in this locality.

To me it is wonderful how fast this portion of Dakota is filling up, and it is no less remarkable to know the superior class of people who are immigrating to the territory. Good school facilities being justly appreciated by all good citizens, these people have shown themselves to be no laggards, in raising the necessary funds, and devising proper plans for the early erection of modern and respectable school buildings as fast as the increase in

population demands them. Newark is to have one of these buildings just as early as practicable, the bonds of the district having been already voted for that purpose.

The commercial interests of Newark are attracting the attention of practical business men. In a recent letter received from one of the townsiters owners of Newark, written from Newark, N. Y., he says he has the assurances of quite a number of gentlemen engaged in different lines of trade there, that they will come to Dakota and if suited in location and business outlook will engage in various lines of business in Newark. They can hardly fail to be pleased with Newark and her prospects. With the extra large area from which her business will receive its support, the wonderful productiveness of the soil, the large profits realized in stock raising and the unparalleled railroad facilities so soon to be enjoyed by her people, it occurs to me that even a very near-sighted tenderfoot can plainly discern the magnetic words "success," in letters of gold, legibly written on every business lot in the town. Here is a magnificent opening for the erection of a number of residences and business houses for rental. They will be occupied before the paint dries on them. A great many men have enough capital to conduct a successful mercantile business, but none with which to build a house, consequently would gladly pay a good price for the lease of a suitable building. A temporary hotel is being constructed. Here then is an opportunity for some good live man to secure a suitable location and build a house with ample capacity and conduct a decent hotel. There is sufficient custom and patronage to sustain it. Here will be the junction and crossing of the Fargo, Detroit & Deadwood Railroad. This road has been chartered, and that portion of it between Milnor and Detroit will doubtless be completed this season. Here too may be found a good opening for a druggist with a complete stock of drugs, medicines, oils, paints, glass and putty. A large general store is badly needed to supply the increasing demand for dry goods and notions, hats, caps, boots and shoes; many people being compelled to go as much as forty miles for such articles. A livery and feed stable would be a great convenience here and a branch of business that would be well patronized and give good returns on the money invested. A blacksmith, a shoemaker, a harness maker, a hardware merchant, a butcher, a baker and a half dozen good carpenters and builders can find permanent locations here for profitable employment, and each a thriving business. The first applicants will receive the greatest inducements from the proprietors. There is no risk to be taken here. Proper attention to business, and a courteous treatment of patronage insures the success of any of the above enterprises, because they are all necessities in any community. A lumber yard combining building material of all kinds would receive the ready patronage of a large boundary of the surrounding country. People must have houses, barns, ganaries and sheds

"The little old sod shanty on the claim" can't stand prosperity and must give place to the more comely wooden building as fast as the farmer is able to make the change. To draw by teams a little lumber now and then

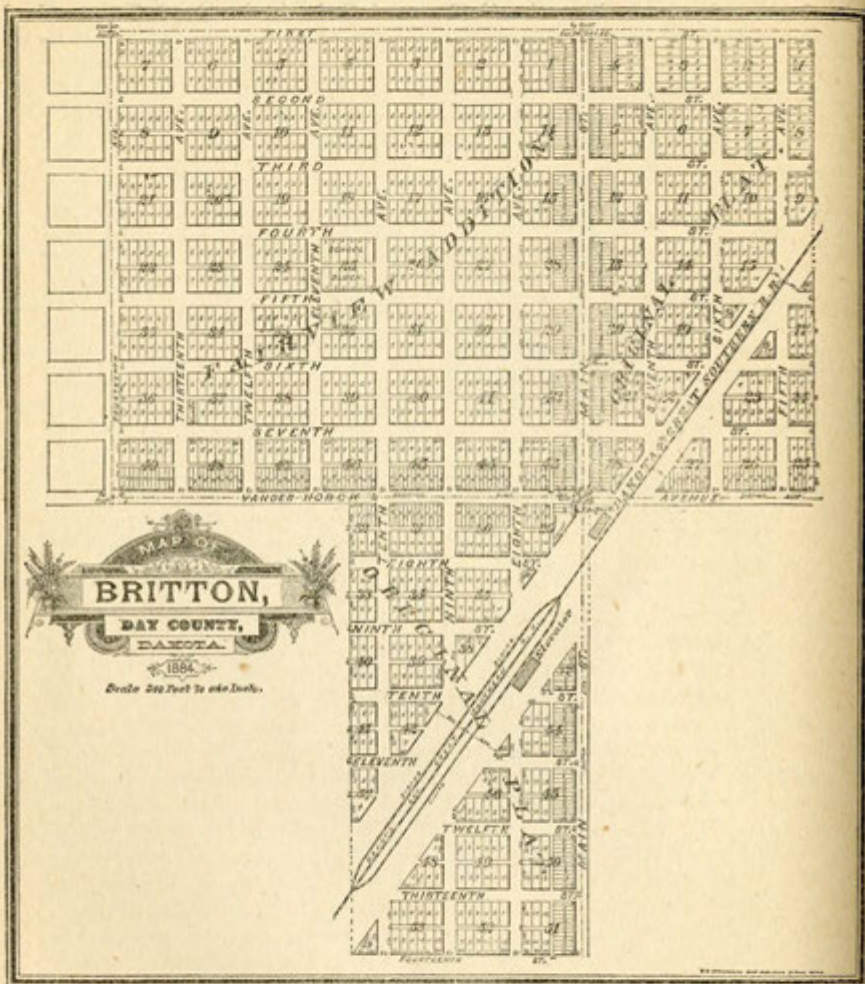
from a distance of thirty to forty miles is quite a task, and would not be done if it could be avoided and the demand supplied at home. A dealer could find profit in furnishing the material that will be necessary in the construction of the many houses to be erected in Newark this season. Verily this is a rare opportunity and lucky is he who fills the vacancy. Newark also needs a live newspaper to aid in building up the town and surrounding country. And such a paper would receive a lucrative patronage from this intelligent community. Who will draw this prize? Such openings are rare.

There are yet a few good claims near Newark subject to entry the location of which can be ascertained from the town site company, who have succeeded, by prudence, in locating on the lands adjacent to the town, a class of settlers whom it is a pleasure to know. The relinquishments of some parties can also be bought at reasonable prices—that is: Any claimant not having properly filed on government land can at his pleasure relinquish to the Government said land, thereby exhausting the right he has used, as fully as though he had complied with all the requirements of the Land Office and obtained patent to the land. Some claimants after filing on a certain quarter section find it to their interest to engage in business that precludes the possibility of conforming to the rules of the land department, and are compelled to sell their relinquishment for what they can get or abandon the claim and lose all. Thus a man may receive from another a certain sum of money in consideration of signing a proper relinquishment to the government of his claim. This relinquishment the purchaser presents to the land office of the land district in which the land relinquished is located, and the land is again the property of the government; he presents with the relinquishment his filing, which if properly made out is accepted, and the new claimant commences to fill the easy requirements of law with bright hopes of becoming an actual land owner and possibly a granger.

There are also a few improved farms and deeded quarter sections in this vicinity that can be purchased very cheaply, for the same reasons given for the low prices of lands around Binghamton.

P. C. Howell, of Newark, will devote a great portion of his time this summer to collecting information concerning the farms, claims, relinquishments, etc., that are offered for sale. Those desiring information in regard to Dakota, especially Day county and particularly the vicinity of Newark, should correspond with Mr. Howell, and I assure all that they will receive prompt and courteous treatment at his hands. Having resided here since the earliest settler came, he has enjoyed facilities for securing a complete knowledge of this portion of Dakota.

For plats of Newark and price lists of lots together with interesting facts relative to the opportunities, to the growth and development of the country and the increase of business here, call on or address the Newark Townsite Company, Newark, Dakota, or the Land Commissioner of the Dakota & Great Southern Railway, Tower City, D. T.



MAP OF
BRITTON,
 DAY COUNTY,
 DAKOTA.

1884

Scale 200 Feet to an Inch.

BRITTON.

AMONG all the new towns on the line of the Dakota & Great Southern Railway that are attracting so much attention, from capitalists and business men, none are more popular than the town of Britton, as its astonishing growth fully attests. In the settlement and development of all parts of new territories there is some how a natural tendency to the easy gravitation of men and business to some central or objective point. Almost unaware to the people who in their daily avocations contribute to the causes that effect this result, a town springs up and combining the common interests of all, soon becomes the acknowledged metropolis of a large and continually expanding area of country. Such a town does not materially detract from the steady growth and prosperity of other towns of merit in the vicinity, but has a well defined mission peculiarly distinct from the interests of other towns. There must be a distributing point, easy of access, and enjoying advantages of location and elements of attraction. These attributes depend upon different causes. There are towns that are accorded this distinction because they are county seats. The courts are held there, the offices, and records of the county officials are kept there, thus necessitating the frequent visits of a large majority of the inhabitants of the county. Large manufacturing industries, employing hundreds of laborers, demand extraordinary quantities of supplies—the product of adjoining agricultural districts, furnishing a convenient market, build towns of such importance. Britton possesses many if not all the advantages enumerated, and more. The town site is located on an important elevation commanding a splendid view of the magnificent valleys around, and the imposing hills in the distance. To the north and west stretches away the beautiful plain known as Broad valley, and to the south lies Pleasant valley to the extent of one's natural vision. This land is all very fertile and productive of wheat, oats, rye and barley, as well as both the natural and cultivated grasses. The land is all taken by actual settlers, the majority of whom are displaying a knowledge of successful farming

that assures the future prosperity of a large farming community. The class and value of the improvements that are fast substituting the temporary sod and rough board shanties, indicate the era of development that must contribute generously to the rapid and permanent growth of Britton. Large herds of improved grades of cattle daily feeding on the countless acres of nutritious grasses attest the superior natural advantages of the country for stock-growing. Day county is far enough south, and the constituents of soil such that the successful production of corn depends solely on proper cultivation—another very important consideration in stock-raising. Good water in inexhaustible quantities is obtained on the highest land at a depth of twenty-five to fifty feet. Numerous lakes on the prairie supply all the requirements of water for stock. Some of these lakes are splendid bodies of water, abounding in several varieties of palatable fish. Britton is located on sections 23, 24, 25 and 26, township 127, range 58, Day county, ten miles south of Newark and about thirty miles north of Bristol, the crossing of the Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul Railroad, and nearly one hundred miles south of Tower City, occupying the necessary location for a division terminus.

The town is named in honor of Col. Isaac Britton, the General Manager of the Dakota & Great Southern Railway, the projector of the enterprise. This fact alone, gives confidence to those acquainted with Col. Britton's past record as a successful railroad builder, not only in the completion and operation of the road, but also in the growth and importance of the town. The writer has been personally acquainted with Col. Britton and his successful enterprises during the past five years and believes him almost incapable of failure in an undertaking of this kind. Mark ye in all this prediction that should this enterprise not succeed to the extent of the the original project, the cause of failure will not lie at the door of the general manager.

A few miles east of Britton lies the Sisseton Indian reservation. It is expected that in the near future the entire reservation, as well as the military reservation adjoining, will be thrown open for settlement. The combined advantages of admirable lands, adapted to both agriculture and stock raising; the presence of the two great essentials to comfortable existence—fuel and water, and the healthful location, will create such a rush to secure homes in this new territory that a few months will suffice to fill the whole area of the reservations with a class of settlers that will be largely conducive to the business and commercial interests of Britton. The lands surrounding Britton are classed as No. 1 on the field rates of the government surveys.

The town site is owned by a wealthy syndicate that is sparing neither money or effort to promote the healthy growth of a town that will in no way disappoint those who have and may purchase lots and improvements in Britton. The original plat of the town published in January contained an hundred and sixty acres and was thought sufficient to supply the probable demand for lots during the season but as soon as the site was

definitely located and the sale of lots placed on the market there was a general rush of purchasers, even at the mid-winter season, and while the whole town site was covered with snow. Houses were erected and business commenced notwithstanding the mercury was obstinately lingering in the neighborhood of fifteen and twenty degrees below zero. Early in the beginning of operations here, a wealthy stock company was organized with Captain D. T. Hindman at the head, for the purpose of furnishing at the most economical rates the vast supply of building material demanded in the erection of the many buildings necessary to accommodate the various lines of trade that were already indicated. This company under the able management of Mr. Hindman shipped to Andover, on the Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul Railroad, and caused to be hauled by teams from there to Britton, a distance of thirty-five miles, in the midst of winter weather, more than five hundred thousand feet of lumber, besides a large and carefully selected stock of doors, windows, sash, laths, building papers, etc. This large enterprise was regarded by many people as a very crazy scheme fraught with positive risk. It appeared to many a very important undertaking. The idea of drawing by teams so much material way out on the broad prairies with little apparent demand for any part of it, was regarded as being very absurd, and the "knowing ones" shook their heads, and partly closed one eye with a mark-my-prediction air. The convenience of material, sold at prices within the easy reach of all, largely increased the building boom and stimulated the spirit of improvement throughout the town and country. The demand for lumber has necessitated the second and even third orders from the lumber company for additional supplies, and the erection of good substantial business houses and residences increases in number daily. Among the business houses of the town I desire to mention the firm of Printup & Downs, the pioneer grocers of Britton, both young men full of energy and certain of abundant success. They had the "nerve" to invest their hard earned shekels in a lot and erect on it a commodious and well finished business house, and fill the shelves and counters with a large and choice stock of family groceries. I have already expressed the opinion that Dakota is preeminently a young man's country. Every day my conviction of this fact becomes firmer. Young men possess courage and enterprise, two great essentials to absolute success in the rapidly developing Northwest. They perfectly obliterate the word failure and prosper their possessor. Chas. M. Furber has built a good and conveniently arranged store which he occupies with a well selected stock of heavy and shelf hardware, stoves, tinware, etc.

Tripp & Vincent are dealers in all kinds of feed, seeds, flour, etc. Gaylord & Bentley have just completed a first-class restaurant. Mr. Paul has begun the erection of a business house on Maine street 20x40 feet. Arrangements have been completed for the immediate construction of two large business houses on VanderHorek avenue. Excavation for the foundation of a good residence to be built by Capt. Hindman is progressing nicely. C. H. Bradford, a well known and popular merchant of Andover,

will soon establish a large general store. Mr. Snyder finds his hotel occupied at present, insufficient to accommodate his daily increasing custom and will build a new hotel of three stories.

The town site syndicate will begin at once the erection of a magnificent hotel structure which by the terms of agreement shall cost at a reasonable valuation not less than twenty thousand dollars when finished. This will be built on block 29, lots 1, 2 and 3. The Day Light office is one of the good and attractive buildings of Britton, from whence is issued weekly a newspaper worthy its name. If Day county does not outstrip by far the expectations of the most sanguine, in its development and Britton does not become the metropolis of the Territory for twenty leagues around, it will not be for the lack of an enterprising and industrious journalistic championship.

Among the neat, cosy and business-like offices erected is one occupied by E. A. Cooper, notary public and dealer in real estate, whose advertisement will be found on another page. Another by Messrs. Sperry & Story, and a third by Messrs. Turner & Thompson, attorneys and counselors at law, conveyancers and managers of a general real estate, insurance and loan business, also agents for the sale of city lots. An advertisement finds space herein relative to their business. They are strictly reliable and thorough business men.

Many other good buildings for residence and business are recorded in the list of early structures and in ninety days the harvest sun will shine on a city of an hundred houses more and the busiest city in Central Dakota.

Nearly all the lots and blocks in one hundred and sixty acres have been sold, and many of them transferred from first purchasers. To supply the growing demand for lots the town site syndicate have been compelled to survey and plat an additional one hundred and sixty acres making three hundred and twenty acres now platted in the town. This addition is known as Fairview addition, taking its name from the beautiful elevation it occupies. Lots are finding a ready sale and before the frosts of coming winter all will have passed out of the hands of the syndicate. Considerable sums of money have already been realized by first purchasers in the sales of lots bought in the beginning of the town. The grading of the Dakota & Great Southern Railway will be completed through the town of Britton on or before the first day of June. Seven ponderous machines, requiring the labor of more than a hundred horses and half a hundred men are piling up the rich, black soil, at the rate of nearly two miles per day, over which the great iron horse will go plunging and shrieking, before the golden grain of No. 1 hard is ready for the market of '84. Britton will be the end of two divisions. Here will be located a round house, repair shops, offices of division superintendent, road master, and probably superintendent of buildings and bridges—being about the centre of the line between Grand Forks and Sioux City. Large and commodious freight and passenger depots will be required to accommodate the traveling public and the shipping at this point. Two or more grain elevators, with more

than ordinary capacity will compete for the handling of the annually increasing harvests. These institutions will employ a small army of laborers, many of whom have families. They must have houses, to build which requires mechanics. Probably a majority of these have families—they must have an abiding place, thus adding to the improvements of the town. All of these and the multitude of farmers and settlers in the surrounding country must have merchandise and the necessaries of life, as well as fuel and some of the luxuries. This demand will attract the business man. New mercantile establishments will be constantly added, and new avocations give employment to men in all trades and professions, necessarily increasing the population, and the number and value of improvements in the sure-enough city of Britton, Day county, is inconveniently large in area, and when her population increases a few years in the ratio exhibited in the past few months, her citizens must be accommodated with a division of the Territory, embraced in her present boundaries, thus establishing two counties. When this is done the multifarious advantages enjoyed by the city of Britton, in location, population and elective franchise will be recognized in the location and selection of a county site. A magnificent court house and other necessary public buildings, which in architecture and finish I doubt not will bear living testimony to the intelligence, enterprise and progress of a generous community, will indeed make a city, the fame of which shall spread abroad and declare her without a peer on the line of the whole South and North Grand Trunk Line.

These deductions are the result of fair, unbiased reasoning, in full view of the facts in the premises. The picture is not in excess of the probabilities of the future growth and prosperity of Britton. The causes exist and the result must follow. To the skeptical I would say, go and behold the facts, and be convinced that I have not even told it all. Schools, churches, and a number of benevolent institutions, useful and ornamental societies, public libraries and reading rooms, large flouring mills and the almost limitless inducements for every legitimate industry, will steadily pile up the blessings. While the facilities for pleasure, profit, culture and refinement enjoyed by her citizens will broaden and lengthen the corporate and metropolitan limits of Britton, and her people shall sustain her. It has been recently reported on good authority that a fine vein of coal has been discovered a few miles from Britton. It is said the coal is being used for domestic purposes and is proving a superior article of fuel. With the same development of a good quality of coal in sufficient quantities will come manufactures. There is straw enough wasted annually in Dakota to supply the material for the manufacture of all the straw board and straw papers sold in the markets of the United States. There is no better country for the production of oats and the quality is equal to the quantity. Why then would not an oatmeal factory be a profitable establishment here?

Taking a plain, rational view of all the many points of advantage presented in favor of the town of Britton I believe there is good and sufficient cause for the "boom" that is being witnessed there now. There is merit

in it. At the present list prices of lots it is not unreasonable to expect an advance in value of at least one hundred per cent. within the next six months. It has already transpired that some lots bought less than ninety days ago have recently been sold for just five times their original cost; namely, lots that cost them seventy-five dollars have been sold for three hundred and seventy-five dollars.

There are now quite a number of fine opportunities for business in the various lines of merchandise. Good mechanics are scarce and in good demand. Carpenters, brick-layers and stone masons, painters, plasterers, kalsominers and paper-hangers can find ready employment this summer. A large and well equipped livery, feed and sale stable is one of the most urgent necessities in town at present. In fact with the rapid growth of Britton all the various avenues of trade are opened, and wonderful opportunities offered every day. Britton at present has daily postal facilities, and is easy of access. A daily line of stages to and from Webster vi. Fort Sisseton, and another to Andover, both points on the Hastings & Dakota Division of the C., M. & St. P. Railroad, also direct communication with Lisbon on the Fargo & Southwestern branch of the Northern Pacific Railroad.

The following gentlemen are properly authorized agents for the sale of lots in Britton, to whom letters of inquiry and applications for plats and price lists should be addressed:

Turner & Thompson, Britton, D. T.

D. T. Hindman, Britton, D. T.

Land Co. Dakota & Great Southern Railway, Tower City, D. T.

Capt. J. VanderHorck, Fort Sisseton.

A. S. Bliton, Andover, D. T.

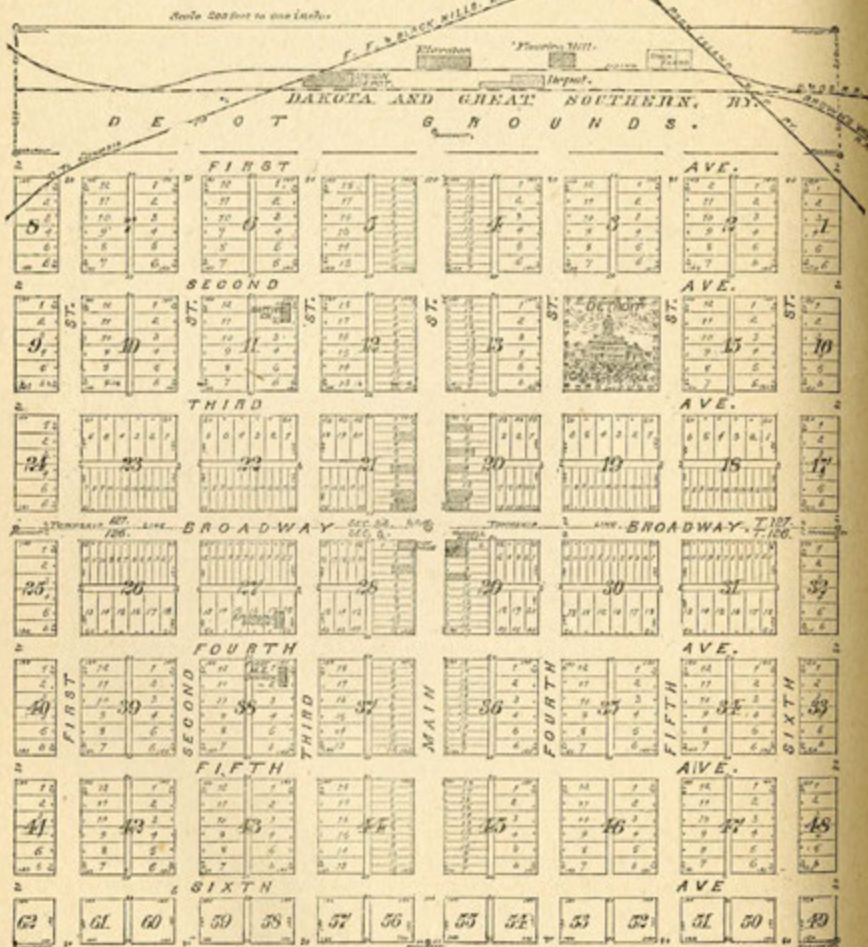
Hon. Thos. A. Bones, Webster, D. T.

Budd & Brock, Watertown, D. T.



DETROIT,
 BROWN COUNTY,
 DAKOTA.
 1884.

DETROIT IS LOCATED IN SECTIONS 54 AND 55
 TOWNSHIP 227 N. RANGE 60 W.



DETROIT.

HAVINE visited all the towns established on the line of the Dakota & Great Southern Railway between Tower City and the crossing of the Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul Railway, and having carefully noted the quality of soil and its adaptability to the various productions of grain, stock and grasses, as well as the numerous advantages to be enjoyed by the settler in the localities mentioned we will now take a short run over a portion of a new line of the Fargo, Detroit & Deadwood Railway, recently chartered to extend from Fargo on the Red River of the North by way of Dunbar, Newark, Detroit and Columbia or Aberdeen, through the counties of Cass, Richland, Sargent, Day, Brown, Edmunds, Faulk, Potter, Sully, Pyatt, Sterling, Ziebach and Lawrence to Deadwood city. The incorporators of this railway believe that a railroad occupying the territory through which this one is projected, is a necessity appreciated by everyone thoroughly acquainted with the country and its rich productiveness. The farmers and business men along the proposed route are very anxious for its completion and many have promised the enterprise their active and united support in constructing and operating the road. The organization of the company has been effected and the following officers elected: J. N. Cooley, President, Detroit, A. H. Laughlin, First Vice President, Lisbon, Henry O. Hamilton, Secretary, Detroit, and Charles R. Hanna, Treasurer, Columbia, D. T. The directorate of the enterprise includes a number of well known business men, some of whom have been actively engaged in the successful building of other important railroads in the Territory and elsewhere. I have been informed by officials of the road that it is the intention of the management to construct that portion of the line between Milnor, the present terminus of the Fergus Falls & Black Hills division of the Northern Pacific Railroad and Detroit at the earliest practical date probably during the present season, thus giving a much desired outlet to

some rarely fine agricultural and commercial districts in Brown and Sargent counties, two of which it is my purpose to introduce in the following pages.

Brown county lies west of Day county and parallel to it. Like Day county it is a very large county comprising forty-eight townships or one million one hundred and five thousand, nine hundred and twenty acres, of rich and very productive lands. There is probably as little waste land in Brown county as in any county of like size in Dakota. The lands are all taken and mostly occupied. An advanced state of cultivation prevails in many localities. Valuable improvements indicate the permanency of the settlement and the prosperity of the settlers. Large yields of wheat, oats and barley have made the lands famous for agricultural purposes while there is no county in Central or North Dakota that can boast better grades of stock or that is better adapted to the profitable growing of cattle, sheep and horses. Good crops of corn, that have matured perfectly, have been raised by farmers in this country. The best machinery is used in preparing the soil for crops as well as in seeding, harvesting and threshing. Columbia on the James River is the county site and Aberdeen a few miles southwest is another good town. The government land office for this district is located at Aberdeen.

Twenty miles northeast of Columbia is located the recently platted and rapidly growing town of Detroit. I like the country surrounding and adjacent to the town, and believe it equal in quality of soil and topography of lands to any portion of the county, which is a well deserved compliment to Detroit. The depth and richness of the soil is rarely excelled. One year ago this portion of the country was first opened for settlement. In six months the number of claims that had been filed on and the value of improvements met on every hand were truly astonishing, and to-day the quality of land that has already been seeded in '84, the many good dwellings, barns and granaries to be seen in every direction surrounded by evidences of enterprise and industry testifies unmistakably to the enterprise and thrift of these people.

Detroit is located on section 3, township 126, and section 34, township 126, range 60. One hundred and sixty acres has been platted and placed on the market. The location is as fine as pen can picture or one's imagination can portray. The townsite is level, but perfectly drained. The streets are broad and the lots of good size and all well situated for business and residence purposes. The present site of the town has from the beginning of the large and steadily growing settlement been the central point. Here the postoffice was established, and a junction of the most prominent county roads and highways, designating this a place of easy access from all points of the compass, and enjoying a score or more natural advantages necessary in the building of a good town. The area of country surrounding Detroit is probably larger than is tributary to any other town in this portion of the Territory. It is twenty miles to Columbia, twenty-four miles to Groton, eighteen miles to Newark, and fourteen miles to

Britton—the nearest town. The people living in the locality of Detroit and in the town are largely from Michigan, and all a refined, intelligent and cultured people, who take pride in the development and growth of the settlement and town, and are always found ready with their energies and means to assist in the accomplishment of a result so much desired. Notwithstanding the plots of the town and the price lists of lots have been in circulation less than one month, many lots have been sold and the class and value of improvements will discount many towns of five years' growth. The facts are barely credible. I have been in the town and write from personal observation. I will give you some idea of the buildings and business that already qualifies Detroit for the distinction of a town. Mr. H. C. Hamilton has erected a large and commodious business house 22x40 feet two stories high, with basement and warehouse annexed. This building is constructed in good style and well finished throughout. It has a handsome plate glass front, and is in every way a substantial ornament to the town. The first floor is used by Mr. Hamilton for mercantile purposes, and is well filled with a very large and well assorted stock of general merchandise, embracing everything that the words imply. The postoffice is kept in this building also, and is conveniently equipped with lock and call boxes. Mr. S. C. Hedger is the courteous and efficient postmaster. The upper story is used for residence and offices, and is very comfortable in arrangement. A building soon to be occupied as a drug store has been built for rental by Chas. R. Hannan, Esq., a banker of Columbia. This building is neat and attractive, and in every way suitable to the use for which it has been intended. Mr. F. J. Bush of Columbia, one of the largest, most successful and popular machinery dealers in Brown county, has erected a nice two story building which is quite an addition to the town. This building is occupied as a bakery and restaurant, another appreciated convenience.

The Russell House is a hotel that will influence largely the rapid growth of the town. It is a good, substantial building, well finished, and conveniently located. Mine host J. D. Jones is a thorough and practical hotel man, having had several years' experience in the business in Chicago. Mr. Jones conducts the Russell house in a way that is fast advertising the town in the most favorable and judicious manner. It does one good to stop with him. The rooms are all splendidly furnished and carpeted. The beds are elegant and made to sleep on, a fact one often doubts regarding the beds we find in hotels. The dining room is large and comfortable, being well furnished in the most pleasant and attractive manner. The tables are well spread. The glass and silverware shine like the reputation of the house; the linen is clean and snowy white, while the viands are always seasonable and tempting, well cooked and lacking nothing to make them palatable without destroying one's digestion. The traveller passing Detroit without stopping at the Russell House will have to travel a long weary way before he finds accommodations better than those furnished by Mr. Jones and his amiable lady, who never seem happier than when succeeding in arranging the comfort of their guests.

C. C. Hedger has erected and now has open for business a livery and feed stable, which is one of the essentials to the prosperity of a new town. Ira Bullis, than whom no better mechanic in his line breathes the ozone of Dakota, owns and conducts a blacksmith shop that is largely patronized. C. C. Hedger, Esq., has finished a handsome residence in which he resides that would ornament a town of five thousand inhabitants. It is located on an elevated site and commands a gorgeous view of the beautiful landscape for miles around. M. H. Amphlett's residence in the south of town can be seen a long way off and has a very attractive appearance. The location is also high and overlooks the surrounding country. H. C. Hamilton has also built a good residence north of town that adds very much to the appearance of the place. Mr. Hannan, who has a well established banking business at Columbia, considered one of the solid institutions of the county, will put in a bank here soon, with every facility for doing a general banking business. Mr. Bush already has a branch house here for the sale of agricultural implements and machinery. Negotiations are pending for several other business houses and good residences.

In their rapid strides toward the building of business houses and their efforts to make Detroit the great commercial centre that her location demands these good people have in no wise neglected schools and churches as a glance at the annexed plat of the town plainly indicates. No community shows greater interest, or contributes more generously to the institutions. A good school building already built will soon prove inadequate to the convenience and comfort of the wonderfully increasing scholastic population of this vicinity, in anticipation of which fact, steps have recently been taken to build another and larger school house. The Baptist, Methodist and Presbyterian churches are all represented here and the audiences that fill the churches during services impress one very strongly with the pronounced moral and religious inclinations of the people in this locality. Last and best is the Detroit Free Press, whose editor and publisher Mr. W. W. Wilson, is one of the pioneers in the town and settlement of Detroit, and has done his full share toward achieving the present prosperous state of both. The Press is an ably edited, neatly printed and widely circulated six column folio, the columns of which weekly teem with fresh bits of local and foreign news, chaste editorials and choice excerpts from the leading journals of the day wielding a strong influence for Detroit and her people. Subscribe for the Free Press and keep posted in regard to the continual growth of the town and the unparalleled development of Brown county.

In the immediate vicinity of Detroit there will be harvested this season ('84) nearly eight thousand acres of wheat, calculated at an average of twenty bushels per acre—a low average—gives one hundred and sixty thousand bushels of No. 1 hard wheat. In addition to this the acreage sown with oats and barley will probably swell the cereal crops to fully ten thousand acres and a product of three hundred thousand bushels of grain, aside from the yield of corn.

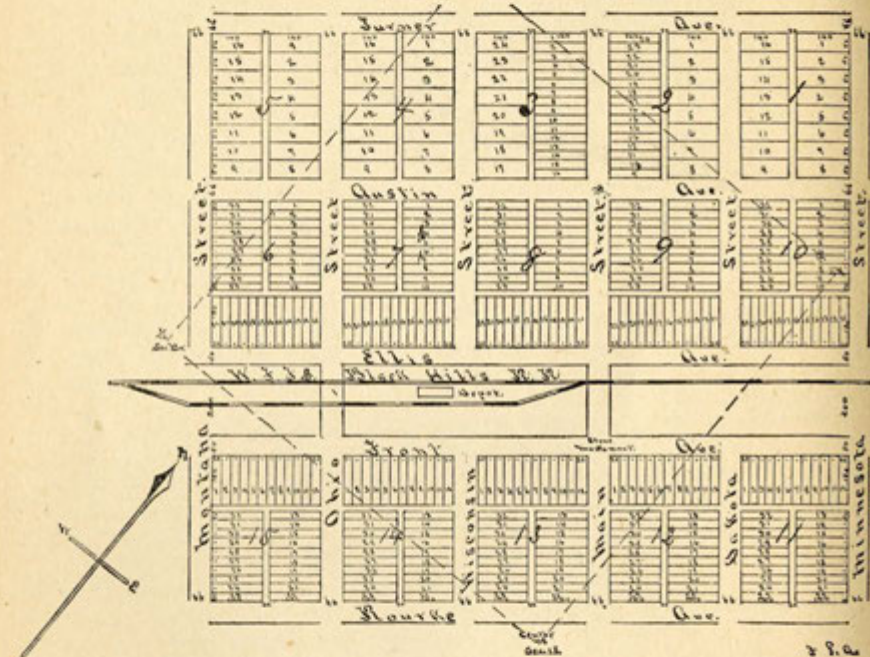
The survey stakes of the extension of the Fergus Falls & Black Hills Railroad indicate the building of this line on the north of town, the stakes standing there now. The Railway before mentioned is a positive necessity and when completed will give a direct outlet to Duluth by the Northern Pacific Railroad, and valuable shipping facilities south to St. Louis and Chicago via. the Dakota & Great Southern Railway from the crossing at Newark, thus giving the people of Detroit access to the famous coal fields of Iowa, enabling them to procure fuel at prices unheard of heretofore in this locality. To illustrate the importance of Detroit as a shipping point when these roads are constructed I submit the following facts, to-wit: As before stated the prospective yield of wheat in the immediate vicinity of Detroit this season foots up the round figures of 150,000 bushels. The crops of wheat that will be harvested in the adjacent territory, tributary to this point, and which on account of convenience must find shipping here, will give at least an additional 200,000 bushels. Twenty-five hundred acres of oats estimated at the low average yield of fifty bushels per acre will give 125,000 bushels. The total yield of barley will probably be 25,000 bushels more. Indications are all favorable to the realization of larger yields and larger acreage seeded. Thus we have three hundred and sixty thousand bushels of wheat, which at one dollar per bushel, will distribute in this locality among the farmers \$360,000. Allowing 400 bushels to the car load, 900 cars will be necessary to transport the wheat to market, and 300 cars more for the shipping of the oats, barley, potatoes and other products, the revenue from which will swell the total receipts for produce shipped to at least a half million dollars cash. Figuring the earnings of the railroad for the transportation of these products is difficult, but it will readily be seen that a haul of 1,200 cars away from the point alone, and at a very reasonable estimate 500 cars more will be required to supply the demand of these people for coal, lumber and building material, stock for the rapidly improving farms and for merchandise and family supplies, will give the railroad company very profitable earnings from Detroit alone; and with the ample facilities for the transportation of the abundant resources will be witnessed a wonderful increase in the products for market, besides which the convenience and cheapness of securing fuel and building material will steadily attract settlers to this locality, thus adding to the earnings of the railroad and to the population of the adjacent country. Grain elevators will be necessary for the handling of such immense crops of grain. Depots and warehouses must be provided and many other industries will spring up, which assures the certain and permanent growth of Detroit. Here are many good opportunities for the establishment of various lines of trade and the opening of valuable commercial enterprises. The foregoing figures are conclusive as to the future business and shipping that must be offered to the business houses of Detroit. The proprietors of the town are anxious for the prosperous development of not only the town, but the adjacent county as well, and will use the ample means at their command to encourage every legitimate effort

in this direction. Good farms can be purchased in the vicinity of Detroit at reasonable prices and on easy terms at present. There are also a few relinquishments of rights, that can be bought, thus giving the purchaser an opportunity to use his or her government land rights. The proprietors of the town will assist all earnest and respectable home-seekers to secure bargains in their purchases. No land sharks or schemers need be feared here if the new-comer makes direct application to these gentlemen, and to this end one of their number, Mr. S. C. Hedger, has undertaken on behalf of the company to give his influence and assistance to those who may desire it in this connection Mr. Hedger's card will be found inserted. Letters of inquiry addressed to him at Detroit, Brown county, Dakota, will receive prompt and courteous replies. The company owning the townsite is composed of C. C. and S. C. Hedger, Detroit, Chas. R. Hannan, Farmers and Merchants Bank, Columbia, and J. F. Bush, dealer in farm machinery and agricultural implements, Columbia, all well known honorables business men, and from whom reliable information relative to Central Dakota, Brown county especially and the town of Detroit particularly, may be obtained on application. For plats of Detroit and price lists of lots call on or correspond with any of the above gentlemen and I assure you fair and honest treatment. Should you desire to visit Detroit come by rail to Groton on the Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul Railroad, or to Columbia via the Chicago & Northwestern Railroad, and thence from either place to Detroit by stage. This being a junction of the stage lines to Columbia, Groton, Newark and Lisbon, the people enjoy easy and convenient modes of conveyance, and daily mail facilities.

We now travel northeast passing through the busy town of Newark already described, a distance of eighteen miles from Detroit, and at the end of a pleasant drive of twenty miles more, across the blooming prairie, fresh and green as the old meadow at home, to which in the darkest hours of our manhood the weary, care-burdened mind turns for solace, we find ourselves in the smart little town of Dunbar, Sargent Co.



Scale 2500 feet = 1 inch.



MAP OF DUNBAR.

2 20

DUNBAR.

NORTHERN Dakota, though yet in her infancy, has eight or nine towns with a population of more than one thousand each. Fargo heads the list with ten thousand; Grand Forks comes next with six thousand; Bismarck follows with more than three thousand; Jamestown with five hundred less; Valley City claims one thousand eight hundred; Mandan and Wahpeton are credited with fifteen hundred each; Casselton has one thousand two hundred. It is wonderful how rapidly towns spring into existence and become cities of no small proportions, in Dakota. A gentleman down East who had just returned from an extended trip through the Northwest said: "I have just come back from Dakota. You ought to see the boom up there. Corner lots \$2,000 apiece, where six weeks ago there was a bare prairie. Why, on my way out, the conductor on the train showed me where a new town was to be started; they were then just putting in a switch track. Well, in two weeks I came back; there was a station there, three schools, a church, four stores, a lumber yard, a hotel, blacksmith shop and several dwellings." As I have before noted, everything is done here with a rush. Crops, ideas, people, fortunes and railroads grow so fast that it makes a southerner's or down easter's head dizzy to witness it. The people have come here from the Eastern and Middle States resolved to succeed and have brought with them an abundance of experience. And if any one presumes that the people of the broad prairies of Dakota are "fresh" or "green," easily to be imposed upon or "taken in," the one supposing it is certainly laboring under a very erroneous impression. People here show their education and culture in every walk of life, and have no cause to deny themselves any comforts obtainable in the states. A writer in the St. Louis Globe-Democrat, speaking of the conveniences and of the people of Dakota, says:

It is not strange that the dwellers in this realm without a parallel should be somewhat different from the common folks. Nowhere else beneath the sun was there ever gathered such a pioneer population. No hickory shirts and hob-nailed rawhide boots; no log cabins and coon skin caps; no lum-

bering old ox wagons, full of tow-headed brats with a half dozen brindle dogs trotting along beneath the wheels; no homespun hog hominy. Our pioneers come in palace cars, reading the latest novel, or Longfellow's rhythmic twaddle about "The land of the Dacotah's." Their costumes tell of jaunts to Saratoga and Newport and their wives are up in all the mysteries of Worth, Demorest and Butterick, and famous with the newest agonies in opera airs and dance steps. All the farm work is done by machinery. The ground is broken by sulky plows, the sowing is done by buggy seeders, the golden grain is harvested with self binding reapers, and threshed with steam, while the engine feeds itself with straw for fuel. Our grangers farm with tailor made suits, with kid gloves on their hands and diamonds blazing in their shirt fronts, while the dainty cambric handkerchief, with the soil, give forth the soft fragrance of new mown hay, wild rose or jockey club.

Such opportunities, such advantages, such bewildering chances to combine labor and luxury, profit and pleasure, fortune and fun, could not long escape the notice of the working millions in other and less favored lands, and the growth of this far northern Elysium, this modern paradise regained, has amazed the world until its eyes stick out snail-fashion past its hat rim, so that you might rake them off with a stick. All the fabled power of Aladdin's old brass lamp, made of politician's cheek, has sunk to feebleness, and its miraculous tricks have grown tame and commonplace. All the tales of Oriental magic, all the Jonah's gourds and mushroom like castles and palaces builded by enchanter's spells in the dewfall of night, have dwindled to nothingness beside the every day realities of Dakota progress.

Of course the above description is extravagant and the facts contained therein greatly embellished, and yet it is a pretty fair statement. Our grangers do wear good clothes and use the very latest and most improved machinery in the cultivation, harvesting and threshing of their crops. The land is remunerative and requires little real labor to produce an hundred fold. Take for an illustration the lands around Dunbar. A rich, heavy black loam—deep in soil and underlaid with a stiff clay subsoil to the depth of many feet, productive and easily cultivated. The general lay of the land is rolling and self draining, though not hilly. There is some stone, though no more than will be found useful in building. The miniature lakes and large, clear ponds afford good, wholesome water in plenteous quantity for stock, and farmers in the region are giving the matter of stock raising considerable attention. A large majority of the lands around Dunbar is owned by settlers who are annually increasing the number and value of their improvements. A surprisingly large acreage is broken and carefully seeded. We predict in this locality unsurpassed yields this season. Good farm houses and large commodious barns and granaries command one's admiration all around, and bear evidence of the thrift and progressive character of the people who are so much interested in the growth of Dunbar, and who look forward so confidently to the time in the near future when a thousand industrious and enterprising inhabitants shall build a town worthy the proprietors and surrounding country. Dunbar is located and platted on section 18, township 131, range 55, and dates its existence from June, 1883. It is twelve miles southwest of Milnor, an equal distance east of Sargent, twenty-two miles south of Lisbon and about twenty miles northeast of Newark.

As will be seen by referring to the diagram herewith, Dunbar is destined to be a great railroad center—being at the junction of three prominent lines, the building and operating of which is only a question of limited time. The F. D. & D. railway has already been mentioned in description of Detroit. It passes through Dunbar and here forms a junction with the Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul railroad from Milbank, northwest. This line has been completed to or near the Indian reservation, and the time of the extension depends solely on permission of the government to enter and pass through the reservation. The Wadena, Fergus Falls & Black Hills branch of the Northern Pacific has also been located to and through Dunbar, and will no doubt be built in the near future, thus giving unexcelled railroad facilities to the people of this thrice fortunate town. The town site was located by A. H. Laughlin, Esq., of Lisbon, register of deeds for Ransom county, and M. W. Turner, Esq., of Ohio, who are the present owners and managers of the town site. These gentlemen have shown their faith by their works, and have started the permanent improvements of the town at their own expense. They have completed in a neat and tasty manner one of the best business houses that has met my observation outside the large cities. It is a large imposing structure two stories high 30x80 feet, finished in the most approved style, with large plate glass front, shelves and counters that mark the ability of the mechanic who made them, and commend the judgment and taste of the proprietors who designed them. This house is well filled with a stock of staple and fancy groceries, embracing everything belonging to that line of trade, owned and conducted in first-class business style by Mr. Turner. In addition to this establishment, the business at present consists of the following:

Yaiser & McEnery, dealers in shelf and heavy hardware, guns, ammunition, stoves, tinware, mechanics' tools, farming implements, pocket and table cutlery, exhibit the most complete assortment of goods in their line that can be found in Sargent county. They also receive and fill orders for guttering, plumbing, etc., and enjoy a large and constantly increasing patronage, which for their enterprise and reliability they justly merit. The Nelson house deserves the large patronage it receives. Everything here is tidy and clean. Good, palatable and well seasoned dishes have floated before my vision tempting my always keen appetite continually, since I enjoyed the hospitality of old father Nelson, the courteous and good natured host of the Nelson house. Such a hotel adds greatly to the inducements to locate in a town anywhere. A blacksmith shop by George H. Siverson, a first-class mechanic, is a convenience that is fully appreciated in Dunbar, and brings the farmers to town. D. F. Ellsworth, Esq., attorney and counselor at law, finds both pleasure and profit in his new location. Rutherford Bros. & Ellsworth conduct a real estate business in an honorable and legitimate way. This firm is strictly reliable and financially responsible. Any one corresponding with them in regard to business in their line will not fail to receive satisfactory treatment at their hands and their assurances can be relied upon to the letter. A complete stock of

drugs, medicines, paints, oils, etc., is owned and controlled by W. A. Ellsworth, druggist. A substantial school house is now under contract to be completed ready for use this fall. The Sargent County Item is the most interesting and readable local paper published in Eastern Dakota. It is a six page 6 column folio, published weekly by Doubleday & Ellsworth two talented young journalists. The Item is a square deal and persistently battles for the interest of the farmers and tax payers and against the schemers and filching fiends of the county and Territorial strong boxes.

A perusal of the advertising pages of this book will be interesting to the reader and will give a better idea of the business mentioned along the line. The town and vicinity of Dunbar is more than ordinarily blessed with good, wholesome water, that is obtained by digging or boring, in ample quantities. This must soon be a very important point in Sargent county. A large and prosperous community will contribute largely to the building and support of a good, live town. The location is central and will draw a large patronage to the commercial and mercantile interests, from miles away. Being outside the Northern Pacific railroad limit few quarter sections remain unimproved. The estimate of land already in cultivation in this vicinity, made by one fully acquainted with the facts, indicates fully an eighth or eighty acres in each section, which is a good showing for the first season. There will probably be twice the amount prepared for seeding in '85. The class of inhabitants of Dunbar and contiguous localities is worthy their adopted home. The sure and rapid development of all parts of Dakota is no more marked or distinct elsewhere than around about Dunbar, and with this development and the annual multiplication of settlers and residents will come a continually increasing demand for hauling material, farm machinery, agricultural supplies, groceries and dry goods, hardware and all kinds of merchandise. To supply the demand and accommodate the trade at home will require a goodly number of fair dealing business houses, well stocked in trade. At present a good boot and shoemaker can find a very desirable location in Dunbar. A harness maker and repairer would no doubt be well pleased and perhaps surprised at the amount of good custom he would receive. A wagon maker and repair shop is an absolute necessity here and must be supplied soon. No finer opening for the livery business in Sargent county than presents in Dunbar. A lumber yard, including all classes of building material, is loudly called for and would be patronized not only by the builders in town but also by the farmers and claim owners throughout an area of a half score of miles. A grand opportunity for a good practicing physician, none being nearer than ten miles in any direction. A general store carrying a large and well assorted stock would command a patronage that would prove a bonanza in a few years. Extraordinary inducements exist for the establishment and operation of a large flouring mill and there are many other openings for business men, artisans and mechanics, all of whom will find a cordial welcome and valuable influence from the proprietors of Dunbar. The mail facilities here are good. The people have the convenience of

two mails a week via Lisbon and four mails a week via Milnor. To reach Dunbar from the east come to Milnor, when you will find prompt transportation hence, by easy conveyance.

Correspond with or call upon any of the following gentlemen nearest you: A. H. Laughlin, Lisbon, D. T.; M. W. Turner, Dunbar; Folsom & Co., 14 Bible House, New York City.; W. H. Turner, Painesville, Ohio, either of whom will send you free plats of the town of Dunbar, and scheduled prices of lots, as well as a great deal of valuable general information concerning Dakota.

Our tour of inspection is ended. Here we part, after having traveled in the previous pages of the book about one hundred and fifty miles. Our pleasant journey has taken us through a grand country, even in its comparative undeveloped condition. In a few years, should it be our lot to meet again in this wonderland, I have no doubt we would view it as a new land—one that we fail to identify with Dakota in 1884. It will be, in the language of Col. Donan, a land of wheat fields and meadows, of fruit trees and golden grain; under the belt, a garden of flowers and the bluest of heavens bedding above and resting its arch on the walls of the forest. An empire more glorious than many old world kingdoms and principalities, rich beyond comparison, healthful in climate and blessed with a population of unsurpassed intelligence, energy and enterprise. God's star-gemmed skies never domed a lovelier domain or one more fit for queenly membership in the great American sisterhood of states.

Long trains of palace cars fly thundering and shrieking across golden harvest-burdened plains, where but a few moons ago the buffalo pastured and the grey wolf trailed his prey. Churches, schools, banks, street railways and daily papers are sown broadcast all over the feeding places of yesterday's antelope and red deer; all the wild rumors of the orient dwindle into nothingness beside the every day relation of Dakota's progress.



ANDREWS & DELANO,

BINGHAMTON D. T.

AGENTS FOR AND DEALERS IN

REAL ESTATE

BUY AND SELL

Deeded Lands and Improved Farms.

*Special Facilities for Locating Settlers on Government
Lands. Local Agents for the sale of North-
ern Pacific Railroad Lands.*

Call Special Attention to their COMPLETE LIST of

VALUABLE FARMS, CLAIMS AND RELINQUISHMENTS

Among which will be found some Rare Bargains.

WILL } Manage Farms, negotiate leases and rentals, pay taxes, and superintend
improvements for non-residents.
Write Insurance in first-class companies on farm and city property.
Furnish Money for Final Proofs at reasonable rates of interest on long time.

FINAL PROOF AND CONTEST PAPERS

Carefully Prepared and prosecuted before the Land Office at Fargo.

RESIDENT AGENTS FOR THE SALE OF

BINGHAMTON TOWN LOTS.

Plans and Price List Furnished on Application.

Correspondence earnestly solicited and promptly answered, in regard to every particular concerning Dakota and Binghamton especially.

SASH, MOULDINGS,

SHINGLES, DOORS

A. L. WALL,



LUMBER



BINGHAMTON, DAKOTA.

BUILDING PAPER, LATH,

BUILDERS' SUPPLIES

MARSH & REINOLD,

Take pleasure in announcing that their splendid stock of

Staple and Fancy Groceries

Is complete in every particular, consisting of

*Canned Goods, of every description, Sweet and Bitter
Chocolate, Brooks' Prepared Cocoa.*

In Coffee we have an O. G. Java, Fancy Roasted, and a Genuine Mocha. This is a superior article, intended to meet the wants of the best trade. In Domestic Fruit we have all new 1883 crop. Choice Michigan Quartered Apples, Fancy Evaporated Ring Cut Apples, Choice California Peaches, Fancy Pared Sliced Peaches, Choice Blackberries, Fancy Pitted Cherries, California Pitted Plums, California Pitted Apricots. In Foreign Dried Fruits: Choice Valencia Raisins, Fancy Sultana Raisins, Fancy London Layer Raisins, Extra Piliatria Currents, Choice New Prunes, Citron and Lemon Peel.

We are in receipt of an extra quality of pure uncolored Japan Teas, also Oolong, Gunpowder, Young Hyson, etc. JUST RECEIVED--a Fine Lot of

STRICTLY CHOICE TABLE BUTTER
FROM THE EASTERN DAIRIES.

We also have in stock a Fine CIDER VINEGAR, Guaranteed Pure. Also FLOWER and GARDEN SEEDS.

MARSH & REINOLD,

South of the Lacelle House,

LISBON, DAKOTA.

J. E. WILLIAMS,

Agent for the sale of Town Lots in

BINGHAMTON, D. T.

Dealer in Farm Lands and Deeded Quarters in Cass and Barnes Counties. Special bargains to offer cash buyers.

For general information concerning agricultural lands and first class opportunities for profitable investments in No. 1 hard wheat lands, town or city property and good business locations, call on or correspond with J. E. WILLIAMS, Postmaster, Tower City, D. T.

GENERAL MERCHANDISE

E. J. WHITTLESY & CO.,

Dry Goods, Notions and Dress Goods, Groceries, Canned Goods, Confectioneries

CROCKERY, GLASSWARE AND LAMPS,

Boots, Shoes, Hats, Caps, and Gent's Furnishing Goods.

FARMERS SUPPLIES A SPECIALTY. Buyers and shippers of wheat and other grain. Highest market prices paid in cash. BROADWAY TOWER CITY, D. T.

PATTON'S STORE

Largest general stock of Goods in the city. Patronage of the farmers respectfully solicited. A legitimate mercantile business and fair dealing. East side Broadway, TOWER CITY.

PATTON'S STORE

HEADQUARTERS

THE OLD RELIABLE!

THE PIONEER STORE OF TOWER CITY, D. T. Enlarged, Refitted, Painted and Improved. A Choice Stock of Select Goods.

Family Groceries, Dry Goods, Hardware, Hats,

Caps, Boots, Shoes, Salt Meats and Fish of all kinds, Crockery and Glassware. North of Depot.

E. CHAPMAN.

EARL'S NEW HOTEL

TOWER CITY, DAKOTA.

The Largest and Best Furnished Hotel in the City.

DIRECTLY SOUTH OF RAILROAD DEPOT.

COMFORT OF GUESTS A SPECIALTY.

W. J. CLAPP,

Attorney and Counselor at Law,
TOWER CITY, D. T.

Will practice in all the courts of the Territory and before the Government Land Office at Fargo. Contest and Final Proof papers correctly prepared. Money to loan on good realty or chattel security.

I enjoy rare facilities for investing money in any quantity for eastern and other capitalists. Good security, large rate of interest and long time investments on realty. Safe loans in small amounts, short time and good interest on valuable chattels are some of the advantages I offer. Correspondence solicited. Reference given when required.

Office first door east of Tower City Hotel.

WOOD AND COAL YARD

E. YOUNG,

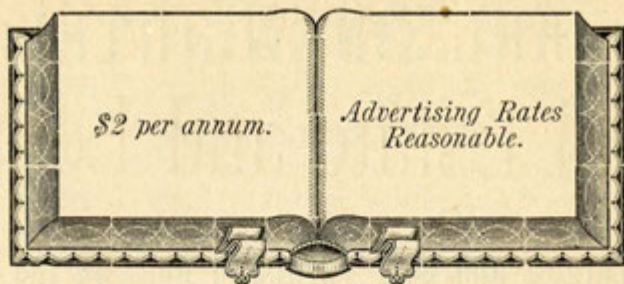
—DEALER IN—

Lumber, Lath, Shingles, Doors and Sash, Paints, Etc.

ALL KINDS OF BUILDING PAPER CONSTANTLY ON HAND.

North Side of railroad track.

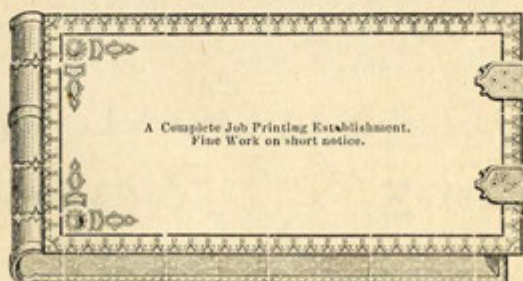
TOWER CITY, DAKOTA.



TOWER CITY HERALD

TOWER CITY, DAKOTA.

The Pioneer Newspaper west of Casselton and east of Valley City. Established in 1879. Located on the line between Cass and Barnes counties, the HERALD commands a large patronage from both counties, and is devoted to the interests of the farmers, mechanics and business men in this locality. A live newspaper and a splendid advertising medium, filled with reliable information concerning North Dakota.



Address F. M. Cornell, Editor and Publisher, Tower City, D. T.

A. H. LAUGHLIN & CO.,

Real Estate and Loans

\$279,840.50 TO LOAN ON FARMS

IN RANSOM, SARGENT AND LAMOURE COUNTIES.

Two Sections of Deeded Lands adjoining the Gold Fields of Ransom county for sale cheap. All deeded land in Ransom counties, on long time at low rates of interest.

FINAL PROOFS

In Ransom and Sargent Counties will receive special attention.

A. H. LAUGHLIN & CO. LISBON, D. T.

Tower City Bank

OF R. P. SHERMAN.

Established in 1880. Does a General Banking Business. Special attention given collections. Foreign exchange sold, on principal cities of Europe.

MONEY LOANED for eastern parties. Agency for several first-class Fire Insurance Companies.

Correspondents—First National Bank, New York; First National Bank, St. Paul.

B. W. MARSH,

Proprietor of the

LIVERY, SALE AND FEED STABLE,

TOWER CITY, DAKOTA.

First Class Rigs constantly on hand, and careful drivers furnished.

Prompt and comfortable conveyances to Binghamton and other points south on the line of the Dakota & Great Southern Railway, and for prospecting parties a specialty. Special facilities for selling horses and mules.

Lacelle House,

J. D. LACELLE, Proprietor.

Good Sample Rooms for Commercial Men.

FREE 'BUS TO AND FROM ALL TRAINS.

Headquarters for Railroad and Traveling men. Satisfaction Guaranteed. Large and Commodious House one Block West of Depot.

Good Barn Connected with the House.

FEED AND SALE STABLE.

☞ GIVE US A CALL.

J. D. LACELLE, LISBON, D. T.

THE TOWER CITY HOTEL,

N. CHILSON, PROPRIETOR.

Northeast of N. P. railroad depot. _____ TOWER CITY, DAKOTA.

The pioneer hotel of Tower City. Good accommodations offered to the traveling public, especially to gentlemen and their families just arriving in the Territory. Special attention given this class of custom.

Convenient sample rooms for commercial men.

Best brands of Cigars always on hand.

A NEW DEAL.

An entirely new stock of General Merchandise. New Store Room. New Fixtures. New scale of prices.

➤**H. V. SMITH,**◀

—DEALER IN—

General Merchandise and Farmers Supplies.

Cashier's office for Tower City branch of Northern Pacific Elevator Co. Highest price paid for produce in season. Farmers trade especially solicited.

North Front Street, near Broadway. _____ TOWER CITY, DAKOTA.

Dunbar's Famous General Store,

LAUGHLIN & TURNER, Proprietors.

A General Stock of everything usually kept in a house of this kind, and sold at prices that surprises the "fresh arrival" from the "Cheap John" country.

Ample Quantity, Unexcelled Quality and Satisfactory Prices are our Specialties.

EXTRAORDINARY INDUCEMENTS TO NEW SETTLERS

LARGE LINE OF FEED,
PROVISIONS AND FAMILY SUPPLIES,
GROCERIES AND CANNED GOODS.

CALL AND SEE OUR GOODS.

CLARA O. PINDALL,

COUNTY SUPERINTENDENT SCHOOLS.

TO THE SETTLERS OF DAKOTA:—Excellent educational advantages extended, and Ransom county with her many fine school houses, efficient corps of educators and school officers, deserves a worthy name.

Only the best teachers are employed, consequently the highest standard is reached, and the great art of teaching becomes the pride of our enterprising citizens.

|| HARDWARE ||

YAISER & McANENY,

DEALERS IN

Stoves, Tinware, Household Utensils

TOOLS, CUTLERY, Etc., Etc.

A full line of cooking, heating and claim stoves always on hand. We are prepared to do all kinds of job work on the shortest notice and most reasonable terms. Special attention given to Eaves Troughing and Tin roofing. Give us a call and save money by purchasing of
YAISER & McANENY, DUNBAR, DAK.

FARM MACHINERY.

Laughlin, Palmer & Co.,

DUNBAR AND LISBON, D. T.

In order to accommodate their rapidly increasing trade in Sargent County, have established a branch house at the flourishing town of Dunbar, the exact centre of the largest area of improved lands in the county, and have constantly on hand a complete stock of the latest and most approved

AGRICULTURAL MACHINERY

AND FARMING IMPLEMENTS

Including the always reliable McCormick Harvester and Twine Binder, The light running Plano Binder, McCormick and Warrior Mowers, Tiger and Hollingsworth Rakes, Deere Gang and Sulky Plows and Walking Breakers, Dubuque Norwegian Sulky and Walking Plows and Breakers, Cortland Buggies and Jackson Wagons, Sleighs and Cutters.

Ames Straw Burning Engines and Victor Separators, The Light Running Domestic Sewing Machine. Prices Low and terms reasonable.

R. A. RUTHERFORD, }
H. L. RUTHERFORD. }

{ D. F. ELLSWORTH,
{ Att'y at Law & Notary Public

RUTHERFORD BROS. & ELLSWORTH,

DEALERS IN REAL ESTATE.

Loans negotiated on good security at reasonable rates. Improved and unimproved lands bought and sold. Settlers located. Contests and Final Proofs receive special attention. Letters of inquiry inclosing stamp for reply promptly answered. DUNBAR, D. T.

THE SARGENT COUNTY ITEM.

A LIVE WEEKLY PAPER.

Published in the future county seat and coming metropolis of the banner county of Dakota Territory. THE ITEM contains more Dakota news than any paper published in Sargent County, and has the largest circulation. It is the best advertising medium because it is more extensively circulated abroad. Advertising rates furnished upon application. Subscription price \$2 per annum, spot cash.

DOUBLEDAY & ELLSWORTH, Publishers, DUNBAR, D. T.

G. S. MONTGOMERY.

F. L. BENTON.

MONTGOMERY & BENTON,

SARGENT, DAKOTA.

Dealers in Real Estate

AND SARGENT LOTS.

Money Loaned on Final Proofs at lowest rates of interest. We have 20,000 acres of land in Ransom and Sargent counties for sale. Improved farms for rent. Correspondence solicited.

G. ATCHINSON'S

PIONEER

Livery and Freight Line

Is prepared to do all kinds of teaming from all points of commerce within 50 miles of Sargent. Trusty teams for Persons hunting claims. Stable room for all. Feed and Sale Stable. Expert grooms will take care of horses and see that they have comfortable quarters. Prices are very reasonable. SARGENT, D. T.

HEADQUARTERS HOTEL,

A. F. PRENTICE, Proprietor.

Large and Commodious Rooms, Perfectly Ventilated and Neatly Furnished Throughout.

Ample Accommodations for Forty Guests.

Neat Bar supplied with the best of all kinds of Drinks, Cigars, Etc., Etc.,

SARGENT, - DAKOTA.

SEND FOR A SAMPLE COPY OF THE

SARGENT SCRIBE,

Published weekly, in the splendid young town of Sargent, Sargent county, Dakota, by W. D. BOYCE, and edited by J. W. BANBURY.

Full of interesting news concerning the great Northwest, especially Dakota, and particularly the growth and development of Sargent.

TERMS, \$2.00 per annum in advance.

J. W. BANBURY.

B. A. ROURKE, Notary Public.

BANBURY & ROURKE,

—DEALERS IN—

Real Estate and Sargent Lots

Money Loaned on Final proofs at lowest rates of interest. And

FARM MACHINERY.

REAL ESTATE AGENTS. FINAL PROOF WORK

Loans. Sargent Property and Sargent Farm Lands for sale.

BANBURY & ROURKE, SARGENT, DAKOTA.

DRY GOODS, BOOTS & SHOES,

HATS AND CAPS, HARDWARE, CROCKERY,

Queensware, Staple and Fancy Groceries, Canned Goods, Dried Fruits,
Cigars, Tobaccos, Confectionaries, Notions, Flour,
Feed and Provisions.

The largest stock of General Merchandise in Brown county. Special inducements to purchasers in every line. Call and examine and be convinced. Prices low, and all goods unexceptional as to quality in all grades. We also handle Farm Machinery.

Detroit, Dakota.

HENRY C. HAMILTON.

Russell House,

J. D. JONES, PROP., DETROIT, D. T.

This excellent hotel is managed by one of the best hotel men in the Territory having had a number of years experience in the business in Chicago.

FIRST-CLASS ACCOMMODATIONS. Reasonable Rates and a hearty and courteous welcome greets the way-faring man and gives him an irresistible desire to complete a long and prosperous life in Detroit.

FARM MACHINERY

— J. F. BUSH, —

— THE —

"Old Reliable" Veteran Machinery and Agricultural Implement Dealer

Handles the following line of goods ;

Superior Seeder, Superior Drill, Triumph Seeder, Triumph Drill, Wool-rich adjustable Roller, Ladow Rotary Disc Pulverizer,

Genuine Kalamazoo Spring Tooth Harrow.

Gilpin Sulky and John Deere

Gang Plows,

Cassady Sulky Plow, Hand

Corn Planters, Osborne Harvesters & Bind-

ers, Osborne Mower, Crown Mower, Hollingsworth Sulky

Rake, Rushford Wagon, Moline Wagon, Singer Sewing Machines, Three Horse Equalizers, Bonanza Diamond Tooth Harrows.

Warehouse and Salesroom Columbia, D. T., Branch Agency Detroit, D. T.

C. B. STOUT, AGENT.

The Snyder House,

BRITTON, DAKOTA.

A New and Tastefully Arranged Hotel

PLEASANT AND CONVENIENT IN ALL OF ITS APPOINTMENTS.

Managed by an efficient and Experienced Proprietor.

THE HOTEL OF THE CITY.

Be sure to stop at the Snyder House when you come
to the metropolis of Day county.

SARGENT SNYDER, Proprietor.

CHAS. M. FURBER,

Has just opened a large stock of

Hardware, Stoves and Tinware.

ALSO A GOOD TIN SHOP IN CONNECTION.

We guarantee all prices as cheap as the cheapest. We have come to stay.
Come and see us. BRITTON, DAKOTA.

SUBSCRIBE FOR

THE FREE PRESS,

DETROIT, BROWN COUNTY, DAKOTA.

By so doing you will keep thoroughly posted in regard to the growth and development of the most desirable portion of the Territory. It is a thoroughly reliable, well edited, and cleanly printed six column folio, enjoying a large circulation at home and abroad. A splendid medium for advertising. Rates Reasonable. Subscription \$1.50 per year in advance.

W. W. WILSON, & CO., Publisher.

THE BRITTON LUMBER COMPANY

Have a large assortment of Lumber of all kinds, comprising



Lath, Shingles, Doors, Sash, Mouldings, Building Paper, Cedar Posts and Monitor Plows.

Parties in and near Britton who intend to build will find it to their advantage to call and get figures.

D. T. HINDMAN, Manager.

E. A. COOPER,

—WILL—

LOAN YOU MONEY to Make Final Proof,

Will attend to all the business in connection with them.

Will buy you land or sell it for you. Will acknowledge your papers as a Notary Public in and for Day county. Will, in fact transact all business in connection with the Land Office, promptly and satisfactorily.

BRITTON, DAKOTA.

J. T. THOMPSON,

Real Estate and Loans,

Buys and sells Real Estate, locates settlers, negotiates loans, local agent for the sale of lots in the rapidly growing town of Britton. Writes insurance in reliable companies, transacts business for non-residents, prepares papers for final proofs and contests. Correspondence solicited. Britton, Dakota.

PRINTUP & DOWNS,
The Pioneer Grocers of Britton,

—DEALERS IN—

PROVISIONS AND FAMILY SUPPLIES,

STAPLE AND FANCY GROCERIES.

The largest and most complete stock of Canned Goods in Day county. We handle the best grades of Sugars, Coffee and Teas in the market. Our line of Tobacco, Cigars and Smokers' Articles is complete and unexcelled in the city. We keep a full and complete stock of everything in our line, and are pleased to show goods and quote prices.

We desire to call especial attention of the farmers and those "holding down claims" in this county, to the fact that we are prepared to give special inducements to them for supplies and provisions. Call and examine stock and prices. Britton, Day county, Dakota.

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