

IGNITE BRIQUETTES

PHILADELPHIA COMPANY WILL ESTABLISH A FACTORY AT TASKER, N. D., FOR THE MANUFACTURE OF BRIQUETTES.

Prof. Bradley of Philadelphia was in a short time ago exhibiting a briquette made from lignite coal which his company proposes to manufacture in this state and supply the people with fuel. A factory will be erected at Tasker, about 15 miles from Minot, at a cost of \$75,000. The briquettes have been tested for three years, it was said, and are about the size of hen's eggs for general use, another special size being made for locomotives. The briquettes, it is claimed, will not absorb water when immersed in it for 24 hours, will not run together and fuse in the furnace, and will not deteriorate or slack when left exposed to the air for months. They are hard and odorless. Coal tar is used as a binder. By August 1st the company expects to be in shape to turn out 240 tons a day.

The company is not selling stock, being sure it has a good thing. The price of the briquettes will be the same everywhere in the state—\$7.50 a ton—and the company guarantees that one ton of them will produce as much heat as two and a half tons of anthracite. The state annually consumes several million dollars worth of imported fuel and coals and it is believed the company has millions in profit in sight, at the same time saving the people of the state other millions of dollars. It is expected to largely increase the output of the factory there and also to establish one in the southern part of the state on the Northern Pacific railway. As the coal is mined for less than two dollars a ton and the average freight rate is \$1.75, the margin for profit seems to be large for the company. There is about 600 pounds of water in each ton of coal as it is mined, it is said, and the process of manufacture into briquettes will eliminate this and enhance the value of the fuel.

North Dakota has hundreds of thousands of acres of coal lands which have not begun to be developed and it would seem as if there was an immense future for them and in their development. It does not seem right for the people of the state to be burning coal hauled in a thousand miles when they have millions of tons underlying half of the state.

Notes from Gem

The Bible tells of a man, who, when he had received his talent, went and digged in the earth and hid it. Likewise has the correspondent to the Gazette done in the busy toil of last summer, then came the awful winter with deep snow that we have all read so much about and buried it deeper. But now that a few days of warmer weather have come and caused a thaw, not an eastern "Thaw," we take up our little task again though we do not promise that our letters will be regular.

We have had some glowing accounts given us of the winter by our eastern friends, haven't we?

It has been a severe winter and disagreeable in some ways, but the man that had no more to do than he ought to do or was fixed for doing, didn't fare so badly out here in the hills.

There has been some small losses of live stock but none serious. Everybody is glad to see spring approaching and no one is holding grudge or threatening to leave because the snow is so deep. We rather feel very hopeful for a good crop because of the great amount of moisture that will be left in the ground when the snow is gone.

Nothing of unusual importance has happened during the winter so we will not mention many items.

Earl Derickson and family have returned home from Iowa where they spent the winter visiting. Earl brought with him three mules and six horses. Evidently he will turn some sod this spring.

Ernest Fry has returned from spending the winter with his parents in Missouri. He looks well and still retains his place among the bachelor profession.

Calfey Williams is enlarging his barn to make room for horses he has had wintering near Courtenay. He will bring them home soon.

D. G. Wilson hauled oats from W. O. McCurdy's Saturday.

We think it is generally understood that Sunday school will be reorganized about April 1st.

Our public schools have been going on smoothly under the direction of Chas. Amick. The enrollment now is about 15.

B. A. Norris and family visited Sunday at the W. L. King home.

A few of our farmers attended the sale at N. G. Coddington's, near Pingree, last Thursday.

What we hope we may call the equinoctial storm came a few days ahead of time, on the 18th. We will be very glad to have the snow leave us.

Sherman Ferguson made a trip to Pingree for coal last week.

Walter Amick came from Redding, Iowa, last week, to work during the summer for Earl Derickson.

We have hopes now that we may receive our mail by regular carrier and from the main line of the N. P. road instead of the long round-about way as it comes now. The change has been recommended by the proper officials, so we are informed.

You remember how that old carpenter that worked all summer for big wages around Courtenay, had the breath knocked out of him by a little November "squall" and before he could recover from it had hurried home and told the newspaper man that he had encountered a good sized blizzard and that coal was \$12 to \$18 a ton. We know that man so we didn't pay any attention to him. Then that one to the same newspaper man, the Ringgold Record editor, or rather was sent to him by the party to whom it was written, was the worst save one. The one above reminds us of another Bible incident, viz: where it tells of Satan being given leave to tempt Job and sent messengers one after another with bad news, each one saying "and I only am escaped alone to tell thee."

That was pitiful and our sympathies were almost taken hold of but upon inquiry of the neighbors of the author we learned that there were no persons "starving or freezing" and have since heard that the writer has written a denial of the correctness of the letter as printed.

But that letter given in the Alert copied from Minnesota papers written or dedicated by one "Mr. Fones" takes the prize over all. Have you read it? Will the "awful tales" do us any hurt? We think not. The tide of immigration will roll to North Dakota just the same.

Saved Her Son's Life

The happiest mother in the little town of Ava, Mo., is Mrs. S. Ruppee. She writes: "One year ago my son was down with such serious lung trouble that our physician was unable to help him; when, by our druggist's advice, I began giving him Dr. King's New Discovery, and I soon noticed improvement. I kept this treatment up for a few weeks when he was perfectly well. He has worked steadily since a carpenter work. Dr. King's New Discovery saved his life." Guarantee best cough and cold cure by Stoddard Drug Co., 50c and \$1.00. Trial bottle free.

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