

DEVELOPMENT OF DAKOTA.

A Brief History of the Territory from Its Organization, Showing Its Wonderful Prosperity and Growth.

Vote at the Late Election Compared with 1880 - Population by Last Census, and Estimated Population To-day.

Tables Showing the Assessed Valuation of Property of the Territory - Other Facts and Figures.

YANKTON, Jan. 3.-At the end of the year, when there is a general casting up of accounts, perhaps it might be of interest to give the readers of the PIONEER PRESS a few facts and figures in regard to the vote, population, and wealth of this Territory. Dakota was organized in February, 1861, and the approval of the organic act was one of the last official acts of President Buchanan.

In 1870 the population of the Territory was 14,181. No census was taken again until 1880, but the population may be approximated from the vote for congressional delegate, which was as follows, the population being obtained by multiplying the vote by five:

Table with 3 columns: Year, Population, and Assessed Valuation.

The following is the vote cast for delegate this year, which is compared by counties with the vote for 1880:

Table with 4 columns: County, 1880, 1890, and 1892.

Majorities. From the above table several things may be learned: First, that Judge Brookings did not receive a majority in a single county; second, that in Clark, Dickey, Griggs, Hamlin, Hand, Kidder and Traill counties he did not receive a plurality vote; third, while the total vote in 1882 was nearly 20,000 greater than in 1880, the Democratic vote was 200 less; fourth, that Raymond received over four-fifths of the entire vote cast, and this indicates either that Judge Brookings did not take well among the Democrats or that Dakota is the strongest Republican commonwealth in the country.

POPULATION OF THE TERRITORY. It has been claimed for Dakota, during the past few months, that the population of the Territory has doubled since 1880. I herewith append a table showing the population by counties, according to the last census, and also the population estimated from the vote cast at the recent election, counting five inhabitants for each vote:

Table with 4 columns: County, 1880, 1881, 1890, and 1892.

ANALYSIS OF THE VOTE.

While the vote above given and the estimate of population are correct as far as they go, and while they show a percentage of increase that is truly astonishing, they do not go far enough. There is every reason to believe that the number of legal voters in Dakota will exceed 60,000 had they all been cast. While in Hand, Douglas and Griggs, where county seat contests waxed warm and bitter, there were beyond doubt more votes cast than there were legal voters, it is true that in very few communities was the full vote cast. In Lawrence county, for instance, the vote fell 1,900 short of 1880. In Yankton county it fell short nearly 350, and in other old counties, not to mention the newer ones, the vote was not what it should have been. Then, too, it requires a residence of three months to qualify a voter, and there were, of course, a large number of newcomers who had been in the Territory less than ninety days on the 7th of November. Then, too, there are some forty-five unorganized counties in the Territory, in many of which there are large numbers of settlers who were not able to vote. Considering these points, while we cannot produce the figures and swear to them, there is no reason whatever to doubt that there were 10,000 or 12,000 men in Dakota on election day who failed to vote.

In regard to the population and the manner of estimating it, there is the same trouble mentioned in connection with the number of voters. Giving five inhabitants for each vote makes the population of Clay, Hutchinson, Union and Yankton less than by the last census, while they have had a fair increase. If it be true that 12,000 voters failed to use their right, then it follows that the population increases correspondingly. In this way the population of Dakota is easily 300,000.

On the above basis the following table will show the vote and population of North Dakota: VOTE AND ESTIMATED POPULATION OF NORTH DAKOTA, Nov. 7, 1892.

Table with 3 columns: County, Vote, and Population.

While these figures are as nearly correct as can be approximated, our North Dakota friends will consider them too small. For instance, Grand Forks county claims 15,000 people, and the Davis Lako county is not included. The population of North Dakota beyond doubt should be increased at least 35 per cent above what the vote would indicate.

ASSESSED VALUATION. I have taken the trouble to copy from the assessment roll in the auditor's office the abstract herewith given, showing the total assessed valuation of all property in the Territory by counties for the present year. For comparison I have added the same thing for the previous year. From this table it will be seen that the valuation has increased from \$31,000,000 in 1881 to \$47,701,479 in 1892; just about 50 per cent. In 1880 the figures were \$20,750,782, which were also increased 50 per cent the following year.

Table with 3 columns: County, 1882, and 1881.

Total. \$47,701,479 \$31,301,518. It should be said in regard to the above table that it probably shows less than one-third of the actual wealth of the Territory. In the first place it was made up in May, thus missing the benefit of the summer boom, and the rate of assessment is very low. Land, for instance, is assessed in Charles Mix county at \$1.32 per acre, at \$1.71 in Kidder, \$2.91 in Cass, at \$5.87 in Grand Forks, which is the highest except in Hughes, where the rate is \$14.64. The total value of all land is given at \$23,225,033, while town lots foot up to \$8,175,600. The full classification of values is as follows:

Table with 2 columns: Category and Value.

The amount invested in manufactures seems ridiculously small. The Fargo people like to speak of their enterprise in encouraging every worthy industry; but Cass county does not report I cent thus invested. Grand Forks reports \$10,101; Lawrence, with its valuable quartz mines, \$17,400; Yankton, 7,100, while Minnehaha, which has the Queen Bee mill, said to have cost nearly \$500,000, reports \$833.50 invested in manufactures. Twenty-five counties claim to have no money thus invested. If, at the coming session of the legislature, some simple rules should be adopted for the guidance of assessors, and, if all property should be assessed at about two-thirds of its actual value, the total valuation would not fall short of \$100,000,000, making an increase of 100 per cent, and it will probably be much greater.

J. J. Johnson, of Richmond, Ind., writes: If every one knew what a good medicine Dr. Guy's Yellow Dock and Sarsaparilla is, there would be fewer invalids. It cured me of dyspepsia. It cured my wife of general ill health. I think it the best medicine I ever used.

DAKOTA LEGISLATURE.

The Dakota Legislature Organized. YANKTON, Jan. 9.-The organization of the legislative assembly was accomplished to-day very quietly, and the programme of last night's Republican caucuses strictly carried out. Chief Clerk Dawson called the council to order, and Gen. Dewey of Yankton was chosen temporary chairman. W. H. Donaldson of the Seventh district was admitted instead of Elias McCauley of Spink county, and the latter will contest the seat. This case has attracted much attention in Central Dakota. Both are Republicans. J. O. B. Scoley of Brookings was elected president of the council; E. A. Henderson of Grand Forks, chief clerk; J. M. Quinn of Cass, assistant; C. F. Mallahan Elk Point Courier, sergeant-at-arms; Jacob Branch, Yankton, messenger; M. C. Lyons, Minnehaha, Prommer; Rev. Dolliver, Methodist, chaplain. The house was called to order by G. M. Inman of Clay county, and Ira Ellis of Union county was chosen temporary chairman. E. A. Williams of Bismarck was elected speaker, T. A. Kingsbury of Watertown chief clerk, E. T. Cressy of the Huron Leader assistant, Hon. A. Sherman Jones of Hutchinson county ex-grossing clerk, Judson Lamour of Pembina, sergeant-at-arms, Chaplain Roy, J. G. Travis, Baptist, messenger, Philip Clark, Moody county; watchman, Peter Bjorgum Elkpoint. From the Seventh district, N. T. Hauser of Brown county and N. J. Shafer of Grant county were admitted on the ground that their credentials bore the signature of the clerk of the senior county in the district. Lamb and Phillips will contest the seats. After getting fairly in working order both houses adjourned until to-morrow, at which time the governor will present his message. As yet not much has been said about legislation, but there will come up a large amount of important business. Some time late in the week or early next, it is expected that the entire legislature, with the wives of all members and different officials, will make a visit to Sioux Falls to inspect the new penitentiary.

YANKTON, Dak., Jan. 11.-Legislative matters were quiet to-day. The time was mostly taken up with a discussion of rules, though a few bills were introduced and notices given of several others. The standing committees will be announced to-morrow and the presiding officers have found the usual difficulty in satisfying all parties. The bodies are so small, however, that it ought not to take very long to ascertain the fitness of members for different committees. It is expected that after the committees are named the members will get down to business. A motion passed the house this morning to prohibit smoking in open session. Several members took pains to-day to say that in voting for the Moody memorial they had no thought of opposing the governor; that they voted just as one might sign a petition; others that they were trapped into it in arranging for the organization. A member of the Black Hills delegation has declared his intention to introduce a bill repealing the Moody extra salary bill, passed two years ago. The members all profess to have most friendly feelings toward the governor, notwithstanding this memorial, which was telegraphed to Washington last night, possibly to Mr. Pettigrew. It is not likely that the memorial will do any good one way or the other. Presley Moody might have been appointed anyway, but it is said that a New York congressman in high favor at the White House has a judicial friend who wants a judgeship in Dakota.

Unwept and Unhonored. A close-fisted, narrow-minded, money-clutching old miser is what San Francisco called her adopted citizen, Michael Reese. Though he owned many a rood of land in the city, Michael Reese would not sell, but let it lie, dirty and shabby and unimproved, while all around the spaces commerce and the arts were building up a beautiful city. Having some ancestral recollections in Germany that he wished to revive, the close-fisted miser went to his native German town to revive them. This native town he reached in safety, but when he went to visit the graves of his family a small admission fee was charged for admission to the cemetery. This the miser would not pay; so, stealing around to the rear of the place, he attempted an entrance by climbing the fence, and fell and was killed. The tears that await the departure of the beloved citizen have not begun to flow in San Francisco. The meanness of his life found parallel in meanness of his death, and thus assuages the grief of San Francisco over the death of Michael Reese.

A Gay Capital. Washington society is to be very gay this season, if the unanimous opinion of a multitude of correspondents may be believed. The capital is rapidly becoming a favorite winter resort for persons of wealth and social rank. Distinguished society people from all parts of the nation flock there during the seasons, and it will not be long before the Washington season will be as important an event in American social annals as the famous London season is for the inhabitants of the United Kingdom. During "the season" London is the great social center to which the fashionable people of the entire kingdom are attracted. In a similar way Washington is fast becoming a center toward which the wealth and fashion of the whole country gravitates.

How a Thriving Town Got Its Name. Waltham Letter in the Atlanta Constitution. "Heads or tails?" "Tails." "The coin was flipped and -" "Heads she lies!" It was thus that the destiny of a prosperous city was decided a great many years ago in this the pioneer manufacturing town of New England. The story goes that two men, Messrs. Lowell and Boot, sometime about 1813, satisfied that another place than Waltham was better adapted to manufacturing, went to the present site of Lowell and started a factory. Boot wanted to name the place in his own honor, while Lowell desired to go down to history with a similar glory. The two men split upon the name and resorted to the tossing of a coin to decide the matter. It fell for Lowell and so this day the place is Lowell.

Ex-Marshal Henry says that he shall resume the business of stone quarrying, which he left to accept office under Mr. Garfield.

A Buffalo newspaper employe has deamped with \$1,000. Where he got it is a mystery.

AN APPALING DISASTER.

Burning of the Newhall House, Milwaukee, and Nearly a Hundred People.

Many Jump from Fifth and Sixth Story Windows to Death on the Pavement Below.

The large, six-story Newhall hotel took fire at 4 o'clock this morning and burned to the ground, and it is estimated that not less than fifty persons—guests and employes—lost their lives. James Antisdel, one of the proprietors of the hotel, said the fire started in the elevator shaft and spread so very rapidly that it was impossible to give the alarm. Regarding the origin of the fire Mr. Antisdel said: "The night watchman saw the fire first, but before he could do anything it was up the elevator and was burning on every floor. I am confident that it started in the elevator, but how it originated I can't say." B. K. Tice, the day clerk, as soon as awakened rushed through the halls calling up the guests to get out, and remained in the building till he was terribly burned. The scene fifteen minutes after the fire started was horrible beyond description. In a hundred windows were men and women in their night clothes, crying piteously for help—occasionally making an attempt to escape by jumping, only to be dashed to pieces in the building above. The corridors were filled with dense smoke and half-stupefied persons were lying across the hallways, while the shrieks of women and the groans of men filled the air. On the south side of the building and in the alley on the west side the scenes were dreadful to behold. One after another the unfortunate jumped from the fifth and sixth stories, and fell upon the stone pavement below, dead in most instances. The patrol wagon was called for, and seven bodies were taken out of the alley, dead or dying.

It is utterly impossible to even attempt a description of the terrible scenes. Upon the icy flagstones the body of an unknown man was lying covered only with a shirt, with both legs broken and the skull cleft in twain. Another poor fellow had crawled up the chamber of commerce steps. His back was broken, and he moaned piteously. Still another attempted to jump from a sixth-story window on Broadway, upon the canvass held by willing hands; but he jumped too short, fell with his back upon the banister, doubled up and crashed lifeless upon the pavement. In the alley not less than seven bodies were picked up, most of them being waiter girls. Just how many were in the hotel at the time of the fire is not known, and probably never will be. The Tom Thumb troupe and part of the Minnie Palmer troupe were there. Of the latter John Gilbert and his bride of a day perished. Tom Thumb's servant perished. Allen Johnson, a leading member of the chamber of commerce, and wife perished. They had rooms on the third floor, and like the rest were driven to the windows. The men below who held the canvass at the southwest corner of the building shouted to jump. Mr. Johnson kissed his wife then leaped into the air and shot downward into the canvass; but his weight was such that the canvass was pulled out of the men's hands and he alighted on the ground with fearful force. His wife followed and struck the veranda. Both were carried into the American express office. Mrs. Allen was dead, and Mr. Allen died in the express office soon after.

Many columns might be filled with details but the greatest interest centers in the list of those known to have perished. There are many missing who are so possibly safe. The following are the dead as far as known: Allen Johnson, commission man, Milwaukee; Mrs. Allen Johnson, Milwaukee; D. G. Powers, inventor, Milwaukee; J. H. Hough, traveling man, Peoria, Ill.; Mrs. John Gilbert, wife of an actor, Chicago; Miss Libbie Challis, dressmaker, Milwaukee; Mr. Huff, insurance agent, Iowa; Mrs. Kelley, servant; Miss O'Neil, servant; Bessie Brown, chambermaid; Thomas E. Van Leon, capitalist, formerly of Albany, N. Y.; Lizzie Kelley, Annie Brown, Kate Lenihan, Maggie Sullivan, Augusta Gass, Mary McDonald, Mitchell, Italian, servants, all of Milwaukee; C. Hawry, conductor, Wisconsin Central railroad, Milwaukee; Mary McMann, Milwaukee; Judge George H. Reed, formerly of Manitowoc; Julia Curtin, servant, Madison; Walter Scott, employe Wisconsin Central railroad; Mary Anderson, laundry girl of Doylestown; Walter Gilleland of Milwaukee, bell-boy; William Gilleland of Milwaukee, elevator boy.

Making forty-five dead and missing. The idea is gaining ground that there are many more bodies in the ruins than was first estimated. The flames spread so rapidly that it must have been impossible for many even to reach the windows. Orange Williams, of Jonesville, who escaped from the burning building with serious injuries, says that while groping his way out through the hallway he stumbled over at least eight bodies, and heard the death-cry of several other poor creatures beyond his reach. The chief of the fire department estimates the number of lost at sixty. W. S. Scott, a clerk in A. H. Carpenter's office, is no doubt among the victims. He was boarding at the Newhall house, and was last seen there. His mother lives in Dubuque, Iowa, and a brother is in the pay-car service of the St. Paul road.

Two firemen, after endeavoring to raise the fire escape, carried a ladder through the alley to the building occupied by Simons & Brooks, and with the assistance of several citizens raised the ladder to the top of the building and placed one end in a window occupied by the servant girls in the Newhall house, and five of the girls crawled unassisted across the ladder and were taken to a place of safety. Some of them were nearly naked. One of the firemen then entered the burning building and attempted to save a girl that was apparently half crazy. She resisted the fireman, but finally, after a hard fight, he succeeded in carrying her across to the opposite building. The brave fireman then returned to the burning building and brought out three dead bodies. Fireman Strauss, who made the first attempt at rescue, carried over a very stout woman, but at one time it was feared she would throw him from the ladder to the alley. At one time she held him midway of the ladder for almost a minute by clutching around and to which she clutched in absolute frenzy. After this the rescued had their arms pinioned and were taken across the ladder without further difficulty.

The Newhall house has been a notorious death trap for years, and thoughtful people have slept uneasily under its roof. Old, rotten, and ill-constructed, with long dark corridors, and a central staircase to serve as a flue for flame, the danger of the building has been increased by the neglect of the proprietor to provide suitable fire escapes. If any means of escape from the upper rooms of the house were supplied, they proved worthless in the emergency. Not one person is reported as saved by means provided in advance for that purpose. One of the first bodies recognized was that of Mrs. John Gilbert wife of Mr. Gilbert, of the Minnie Palmer company. They were married recently in Chicago, and the bride of a night lay upon the cold marble, charred and bruised almost beyond recognition. Among the bodies were several chambermaids, who jumped from the upper story into the alley. It is said by those who held the canvass at that spot that the scene was perfectly sickening. The bodies fell around them on every side, and lay with broken heads and bruised bodies, only half covered with clothing. Martin Webber, of La Porte, Ind., says he arrived at the hotel yesterday and was assigned to room 158, on the fourth floor. He was accompanied by a friend named G. W. Hall, who occupied a room off from and opening into his. Webber was awakened by the noise of the roaring flames. He sprang from his bed and called to his friend, who also arose and came in and the two men dressed themselves. Hall said: "My God! do you think they will ever get to us?" The next moment he made a run for the window and cleared it with a bound. Mr. Webber has not yet been able to find him either dead or alive, although he has made diligent search. Webber was driven from his room by the smoke, and climbed outside and hung from the window sill for ten minutes, he thinks, when he was rescued by a ladder being placed at the window.

The Newhall house was built in 1859 by Deah Newhall, one of the heaviest wheat speculators on Lake Michigan. The original cost of the building was \$250,000. It stood on the corner of Broadway and Michigan streets, one block from Wisconsin street, the principal thoroughfare on the east side. Opposite the south side of Michigan street, stood the magnificent building recently erected by Alexander Mitchell of the Milwaukee chamber of commerce.

The Newhall house was popular as a boarding place, with the single reservation of a never-ending dread of fire on the part of all who remained beneath its roof. It was the home for a long time of Gov. Smith, Postmaster Payne, Horace Rublee, William F. Cramer, Col. Eliza Starr, James Ludington, the late Mrs. John L. Mitchell, Charles H. Hoskins, C. D. Nash, many railway men and young business men of the city. It was also a favorite place for board of trade men to dine.

Plague Stricken.

There is probably nothing in the world more appalling than the raging of "the plague." To see the human bodies and infected clothes dragged out from the dwelling by long hooks, carried by men entirely enveloped in tarred garments, and then to see those bodies jumbled heedlessly together into an open cart and borne away to some common receptacle, to be added to the still more loathsome mass already congregated there, must fill one's mind with indelible loathing. But to see one dear to us falling a victim to the disease—to see him die and taken away from us in the most desecrated manner possible, and by strangers and yet not to be able to approach the once-loved form—in fact, from a sense of the utter uselessness of our effort, and the instinct of self-preservation, flying the very presence of such a one—must overwhelm the heart with inexpressible anguish and horror. Mr. G. L. Dutton, while in Odessa, was told the following thrilling story of the plague which, some years ago, almost depopulated several of the cities of the Turkish empire and eastern Russia. It illustrates the awful peril of infection from such an epidemic, and the frequent futility of all efforts to escape it.

A man had a wife and six lovely children, his great fondness for whom made him so extremely cautious during the raging of this scourge that he shut himself and family in the house and yard, and had no communication with any one. His gates were never unbarred, and nothing was received on his premises except food which he attended to himself—making sure that it was not handled till it had been thoroughly washed in vinegar and water, which sufficiently purified it. This he strictly adhered to till report said that the plague had ceased—till the commissary one day in going his rounds assured him through the small hole cut in the gate, for the purpose of conversation and passing the necessary viands, that he believed the epidemic had disappeared.

The inmate happy at the intelligence, and that he and all his family had escaped, said to the commissary, "I will give you something to drink for the good news you bear." He accordingly brought a tumbler and spirit and gave some to the man, then took the tumbler back, bade him good-day and went in. The commissary moved only a little further on his rounds when the plague seized him and he expired.

The gentleman within the house took the disease—and in less than thirty-six hours neither he nor any person of his whole family was alive.—A Tour to the Caucasus.

Electric Light for Domestic Uses

Neither here nor in Europe, after years of experiment and investigation by a multitude of inventors and physicists, and after the concentration of scientific thought on the problem, has there been made more than very slight progress in adapting the electric light to ordinary and domestic uses, or, in other words, in enabling it to compete successfully and generally with gas. It has unquestionably conquered a field of its own, but it is a limited field in comparison with that held by our illuminating gas. It has not proved itself a competitor of which the gas manufacturers have any present occasion to be in fear. It has not lessened the consumption of their products nor has it cut down their profits. They are making more gas than ever, and the demand for it is greater than ever, and that simply for illumination.—New York Sun.

George W. Childs, of the Philadelphia Ledger, gave his employes \$6,000 in Christmas presents.