

Gathered from Various Sources and Representing Varied and Conflicting Views of Men and Things.

The Capital Commission.

CANTON, Dak., Special Telegram, May 1.—During two days the capital commissioners have all arrived, including Secretary Wheelock of Mitchell. The town is filled with people, and the lobbying on the passage of the removal bill is not to be compared with that now going on in behalf of the candidates for honors. While it is charged that there is both a capital commission and a capital commission, there are no evidences here of the latter. Among the on-lookers are:

From Huron—E. T. Cressey, J. W. Shannon and Representative Sterling. From Mitchell—S. F. Goodkowitz, banker; S. D. Cook, A. M. Bowdle, real estate; W. H. Rowley, railroad land agent; George A. Johnson, real estate; Elijah Butterfield, banker; A. D. Newcomer, real estate; and D. A. Wisener, lawyer.

From Pierre—B. F. Templeton and representatives of the Northern Land association. From Scott—Councilman Ziebarth. From Vermillion—Councilman Burdick and Representative Inman.

From Sioux Falls—William Van Epps. More are expected to arrive to-morrow. At 8:30 p. m. interested parties adjourned from the hotels to Bedford hall, where a meeting of the commission was called to order by President Hughes, who announced that this was an adjourned meeting for the reception of proposals, and the transaction of general business. Alex McKenzie, on behalf of the executive committee, announced that he would submit a written report at the next meeting. Bids were then called for, to be delivered to Secretary Wheelock.

One sealed bid, not indicating where it was from, but postmarked Canton, was handed up and ordered placed on file, to be opened with the others yet to be received. L. G. Johnson stated that he was present to submit a bid for the town of Ordway and wished to know how long bids were to be received, and by what rules. It was announced in reply that that point had not yet been fully determined, but that all localities and parties would be fairly and honorably treated. Mr. Johnson said that Ordway had broken her bank in raising a certain sum and he did not wish the amount known, and then let other towns come in and raise their bids. He did not think it would be fair.

President Hughes stated that he believed all bids to be received were present except two which had been delayed, and that bids would be received to-night, but not opened until some future time, when it was thought all had been received.

Mr. Johnson replied: That is satisfactory to Brown county, and I here with hand in a sealed bid on behalf of Ordway. George Sterling then handed in a bid on behalf of Huron and Alex McKenzie one on behalf of Steele, Kidder county. An informal recess of five minutes was then taken, during which it was announced that the delayed bids referred to would be from Redfield, Spink county, and Frankford, on the North-western railroad, miles east of the depot. During the recess S. F. Goodkowitz handed in a sealed bid for Mitchell. After the recess the proposals received were announced, and President Hughes stated that when the bids were opened interested parties would be allowed to speak on behalf of the several localities, and that the commission would then visit and inspect the several localities. Sterling of Huron wanted to know when and where the bids would be opened, and President Hughes replied:

At Canton, before adjournment; probably to-morrow, and possibly not until the next day. Treasurer Scott moved that the commission now adjourn until moving at 10 a. m. Carried. About 150 people were present in the hall, and there is an universal expression of confidence in the commission and the outcome of their deliberations. There is a growing sentiment that when the division comes it will be on the Missouri river rather than on the forty-sixth parallel. East of the river is an agricultural community, and west, grazing and mining; and congress will insist on the river division.

It is believed that the bids are as follows: Huron, \$100,000; Mitchell, \$200,000; Steele, \$100,000; Ordway, \$125,000.

SIoux FALLS, Dak., Special Telegram, May 2.—The capital removal commission convened at Canton to-day at 3 p. m. Commissioner De Long was absent. A communication signed by fifteen leading citizens of Canton was read, setting forth the advantages of the town, and announcing that a proposition would be submitted previous to the 15th.

Commissioner DeLong moved that the commission meet at Canton on the 15th to open bids, and that meanwhile it proceed to inspect the several localities bidding and examine the land offered. Carried.

The executive committee reported that it had published advertisements for bids; had prepared blank forms, etc. The report was accepted and the committee discharged from further service. Secretary Wheelock then announced the reception of a sealed bid from Mitchell, and the name of Pierre; also one from Frankfort, minus bonds, which parties had gone to Vermillion to have approved.

Commissioner McKenzie then read a telegraphic invitation from A. W. Edwards on behalf of the chamber of commerce of Fargo extending an invitation for the committee to hold the next meeting in that city, where rooms lighted by electricity would be furnished free. Secretary Wheelock then read a seven-page legal advertisement of the city of Aberdeen, wherein a committee of citizens, without making any bid, called attention to the surprising advantages of Aberdeen as a capital site, and invited the commissioners to call upon them.

A committee selected by a mass meeting of citizens of Pierre next presented a written communication extending a cordial invitation to visit and personally inspect the advantages possessed by Pierre over every other city of Dakota as a site for the capital of the great State that is soon to be. Cressey then made a verbal invitation for the commission to visit Huron at its convenience, and become guests of the city—also to hold its next meeting there and personally inspect the conceded advantages that the city has. Mr. L. G. Johnson extended a similar verbal invitation on behalf of Ordway, stating that the invitation was backed with a sealed proposition complying with the law and the rules of the commission.

A. W. Hager extended an invitation for Mitchell, saying the commission would find her citizens hospitable, enterprising and generous. B. F. Templeton, on behalf of Pierre, said that city had aspirations, but wanted further time to put in a formal bid. He announced the money all paid in, and besides other inducements, the city would tender a certified bank check for the full amount donated, instead of \$20,000 cash and \$80,000 in improved bonds.

A special train being in waiting, it was moved that the commission proceed at once to Mitchell, and meet again at the call of the president. Carried. Adjourned.

MITCHELL, Dak., May 2.—The commissioners, newspaper correspondents and invited guests were rendered Superintendent Sanborn's private car and another coach at Canton yesterday, leaving here about 4:30 p. m., and arriving at Mitchell at 7 p. m., sixty-nine miles distant. The commissioners were met at the depot by citizens with carriages and taken to the Alex Mitchell house, where on an hour's notice an elegant supper was served, including vineapples, strawberries, tomatoes, oranges, bananas and all the luxuries imaginable. In the afternoon the party was driven to inspect the land to be donated for a capital site, which consists of 160 acres, one-half mile from the depot, on the south side of the railroad. The commissioners are of unanimous opinion that the advantages of the proposed site and to speak favorably of the advantages of Mitchell for the capital. While the amount of money offered in the sealed bid is not known, it is believed to be less than \$150,000 cash, and this entirely from citizens, Alexander Mitchell, of the Milwaukee road, after whom

the town is named, not having contributed, as was first reported. He has, however, been officially named and may make his influence felt at a later day. The party will leave at midnight for Minneapolis, and will then proceed to Minneapolis, and visit in succession Aberdeen, Ordway, Huron and other bidders for capital honors, returning to Canton on the 15th.

The well-known opposition of the Hon. R. E. Pettigrew of Sioux Falls, Dak., to Gov. Ordway and his methods, especially in the matter of the capital removal scheme, tends to make an expression of views from that gentleman upon pending territorial issues especially interesting at this time. Mr. Pettigrew is at present stopping in this city with his family, and so, being within reach of the PIONEER PRESS, was yesterday taken into a quiet corner and interviewed. He was first asked what he believed to be the general sentiment of the people of Southern Dakota upon the question of dividing the Territory. This was his reply:

"The people of Southern Dakota, as a whole, are very earnestly in favor of the division, and they would prefer remaining under Territorial government for some time to having the Territory admitted to the Union. I believe the people of the northern section are of the neutral and respect to their half. After the division they would all be anxious for admission as soon as possible; but I believe that a division of the Territory is all we can hope to accomplish for the present. I am very sure that the Democrats will not allow Dakota to be admitted to give her three electoral votes to the Republicans. Senator Beck has told me repeatedly that they would not admit the admission of a State until after the presidential election. The admission of a State is always a political question, as all history has shown. Our policy, then, will be simply to secure a division, which I think we can do. Still Dakota people feel that the subject of division should not be dropped, and they will continue to agitate the question. They are fully entitled to admission. If the northern half, with the emigration we are receiving, will have a population of 250,000 by January next, I know that there is a very strong feeling in favor of holding a constitutional convention next fall for the formation of a State constitution to be submitted to the people at the general election in October. If, then, we are kept out of the Union for political reasons, the party keeping us out will have to suffer the consequences of its action in the future."

"What do you consider to be the real state of feeling with respect to the capital removal scheme?" "The sentiment is almost unanimous against it. I know that at Sioux Falls, where I live, there are not a dozen persons who are in favor of the plan. I have also been in many other towns and among the farmers, and I find very few men who are not opposed to the plan. I think that Yankton is not the place for the capital, but that this movement is premature, and that it has a very strong appearance of jobbery. They say, further: 'We don't know what the boundaries of the future State will be, or whether it will be only one State or two, and therefore it is impossible to anticipate the wants of the future in the matter.'"

"Then you think the feeling is general that there has been jobbery in the matter?" "I do, and there are no better grounds for suspecting that the deal has not been a square one. The scheme was, without doubt, conceived to further private speculation. In the first place these men who compose the commission are most of them men of no particular prominence, and are not men whose acquaintance with Territorial affairs would entitle them to be selected for this work. The facts, in fact, were not selected with reference to their professional fitness, but because they were friends of the men who voted for the bill. Seven of them were friends of the governor."

"THE GOVERNOR AND THE SCHEME." "What, in your opinion, was the governor's real connection with the scheme?" "I think he was privy to the whole business from the beginning, and that he expected to make money out of it. The plan of the enterprise, it is generally believed, was to select a site out on the prairies, where they had control of the land, and then speculate upon town lots. My opinion is, however, that the public sentiment has compelled them to abandon the plan, and that they now have the capital located in some town which is already in existence. I don't say that the commissioners themselves conceived that plan, but that the parties who secured the passage of the bill had it in view. It is difficult to tell just what Ordway's connection with the speculators was, but by his action he helped the passage of the bill. For instance, he threatened to exercise the veto power against other measures unless the project for the capital bill. A bill was passed appropriating \$5,000 for a normal school at Spearfish, and the governor vetoed it. Subsequently a similar bill appropriating \$75,000 for a normal school was passed and he signed it. The members interested in the normal school voted for the capital commission bill, and it has been said that they have stated that they were obliged to vote in order to get their appropriations through."

"Have you any idea as to what the commission will do finally?" "I believe that the plans of the commission are all disconnected, and that they do not know themselves what they intend to do. I think, however, that they will open the bids received at Canton, where they are now assembling. Pierre, Mitchell, Huron and Ordway, I understand, are bidders. A gentleman who is connected with the commission, and who did more to secure the passage of the bill than anybody else, told me that after opening the bids the commissioners would look around, or, as he expressed it, 'decide where to locate the capital,' and that they would then return from the public until after they had given the insiders a chance to invest. However, the matter has gone to court, and the governor's conduct with reference to the bill is being investigated by the grand jury, and I am inclined to think that the ultimate result will be that the court will declare the bill unconstitutional, in which case the capital will remain at Yankton, unless when may be changed by the legislature."

Mr. Pettigrew, at the close of the conversation upon Dakota politics, informed the reporter that he had laid the foundation for a 125 barrel roller mill at St. Olof, Minnehaha county, on the Sioux river. He had also put in the foundations for the dam. The mill will be of granite, quarried in the vicinity, and he expects to have it completed by next September. Its ground dimensions will be 40x60 feet, and it will be four or five stories high. The site is on the line of the Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul railroad, and that corporation intends to put in a side track and put up a station there.

Answers in the Quo Warranto Cases. YANKTON, Dak., Special Telegram, April 30.—To-day Capt. Alexander Hughes, acting with Hon. William F. Vilas, of Madison, Wis., as attorneys for the capital commissioners, served upon the attorneys for plaintiffs papers demurring to the writ of quo warranto, recently served upon the commissioners. The charges made in the quo warranto writ were that the commission bill was not a constitutional measure, that the commissioners were usurping office and were about to use public funds without authority, etc. One set of these papers were brought by the territory on the relation of E. G. Smith, district attorney, and the other on the relation of the city of Yankton.

In the one on the relation of E. G. Smith, the defendants admit that the seat of government was at Yankton and aver that the governor and legislature passed the law for the removal, and that said act has been published in said act, that defendants were seconded in said act as commissioners for the purpose of locating permanently the seat of government and capital building of said territory. That before commencing their duties they gave bonds in the sum of \$40,000 with good and sufficient sureties, approved by one of the justices of the supreme court, conditioned on the faithful carrying out the provisions of the bill; they also took the oath directed by the act, and have entered upon the discharge of the duties committed to them by said act; that said act has been in force since March 8, and that the appointment of defendants is not in violation of any law or act of congress; that defendants have not usurped said employment, nor acted without legal warrant. They deny that they are proceeding to change the seat of government of said Territory, but aver that the same is already being changed and removed from said city of Yankton. They deny that they either are drawing or are about to draw any money whatever from the public treasury, or are about to do so, or that they are procuring any persons to draw any sums of money from the treasury, but that they are simply endeavoring to take to the territory to impose or incur any expense upon the Territory, except such as may be payable from and

only from the funds in said act provided for; and that all other acts, doings and intentions are and have been strictly in accordance with the act appointing them to such employment and duty. In the case which the city of Yankton is the relator, defendants' demurrer is as follows: First—That the several causes of action are improperly united in one. Second—That said complaint does not state facts sufficient to constitute a cause of action against defendants. Third—That the relator is not entitled to maintain this action.

In all the cases, except that of Capt. Hayes, the papers were served outside of Yankton county, and the defendants demand that the place of trial be changed from Yankton to the county in which process was served. This will bring the trial in Union and Lincoln counties. The trial cannot take place for some months, and meantime the commission will go on with its work.

A Move Toward Statehood. CHICAGO, Special Telegram, April 30.—The Times to-day publishes the following, dated Deadwood, Dak.: "Somebody has called a convention to be held at Huron in June, and at the same time has named it a constitutional convention, but exactly why so designated is not clear. The convention will consist of 411 delegates, representing counties south of the forty-sixth parallel. It is authorized by no enabling act, proceeding of congress, or legislative bill. On the contrary, a bill providing for some such meeting was killed by Gov. Ordway last session. It is noticeable that a certain faction is working unceasingly to arouse interest in the Huron meeting. In Eastern Dakota the faction is known as the followers of Pettigrew; in the Hills they train under the banner of G. C. Moody, while collectively they are recognized as the Ordway and Bennett crowd. Hugh Campbell, district attorney for this Territory, belongs to the gang. He recently made a sort of fly-by-night trip to the Hills. A friend of his went out while he was in the country, and returned with a cut-and-dried constitution for adoption by the convention, and subsequent ratification by the people; and to make arrangements in accordance with its provisions for a complete State organization, including two senators, one representative, governor, legislature and minor officers, to be elected at a regular fall election. Thus prepared the will go to congress demanding admission, believing the Democratic majority will not care to go on record as a party that for purely political reasons, disfranchised a quarter of a million of people which will be represented as the population of Southern Dakota. They will cite as a precedent similar proceedings in Vermont, where a similar organization six years before congressional recognition was secured. How about details? Is there anything of a state as yet? asked the correspondent. Oh, yes, of course. Pettigrew and Moody are down for the senate, and Campbell is working up a gubernatorial boom. That's what he wants to be for, and now he is off on a tour of Southern Dakota. He is sanguine the scheme will work to a charm."

Such is the movement in which "there are no pipes to lay," as outlined by one of the original promoters, has a national reputation for political machine work. To further the scheme the Huron convention has been called. Naturally opposition is expected from the Ordway-Bennett faction, so completely ignored in preliminary work thus far. Exactly what form it will take remains to be seen, but that, backed by the Democratic element here and abroad, it will succeed scarcely admits of a doubt.

Northwestern Mail Routes. Contracts for carrying the mails have been let by the postoffice department to date as follows: Service from July 1, 1887, to June 30, 1887. From Sioux Falls to Burlington, twelve miles and back, twice a week, Ralph E. Brown, \$180; from Deadwood to Benson, twelve miles and back, twice a week, Ralph E. Brown, \$180; from Parker to Montrose, twenty-six miles and back, once a week, John I. Miner, \$190; from Swan Lake to Turner, eight miles and back, once a week, Alfred H. Sanborn, \$84; from Montrose to Hudson, thirty miles and back, once a week, J. B. Coltrane, \$870; from Spaulding to Clark, fifty-nine miles and back, once a week, Ambrose A. Call, \$498; from Frankfort to Irving, thirteen miles and back, once a week, Joel Hale, \$192; from Aberdeen to Swan, forty-eight miles and back, once a week, William O. Brown, \$248; from White Lake to Platte Creek, forty miles and back, once a week, Joel Hale, \$336; from Highmore to Crow Creek, thirty-three miles and back, once a week, Joel Hale, \$282; from Highmore to Robb, fifty miles and back, once a week, Joel Hale, \$362; from Rapid City to Deadwood, forty-six miles, three times a week, Joel Hale, \$1,430; from Aberdeen to Rapid City, 104 miles and back, once a week, Joel Hale, \$620; from Bismarck to Fort Sully, 250 miles and back, six times a week to Fort Yates, sixty-six miles, and once a week to Fort Yates, sixty-six miles and back, once a week, A. A. Call, \$687; from Grand Harbor to Willard, eighty-five miles and back, once a week, Joel Hale, \$685; from Aberdeen to Rapid City, forty-four miles and back, once a week, Joel Hale, \$498; from H. S. Sargent to Fort Totten, 104 miles and back, once a week, Joel Hale, \$205; from Kindred to Norman, four miles and back, twice a week, Joel Hale, \$85; from Kindred to Rapid City, 104 miles and back, once a week, Joel Hale, \$166; from Fortland to Larimore, forty-two miles and back, twice a week, Joel Hale, \$674; from Young to Bonto, ten miles and back, once a week, F. P. Benjamin, \$100; from Olga to St. James, 104 miles and back, once a week, Joel Hale, \$750; from Carrington to Brenner, forty-six miles and back, twice a week, Joel Hale, \$760; from Carrington to Fort Totten, forty-three miles and back, three times a week, A. A. Call, \$778; from Carrington to Willard, 100 miles and back, once a week, Joel Hale, \$824; from Valley Springs to Larchwood, Iowa, ten miles and back, twice a week, F. P. Benjamin, \$720.

NEVER THE TIME AND THE PLACE. Never the time and the place And the loved one all together! This path—how soft to pace! This May—what magic weather! Where is the loved one's face? In a dream that loved one's face meets mine. But the house is narrow, the place is bleak Where, outside rain and wind combine, With a turtive ear, if I strive to speak, With a hostile eye at my flushing cheek, With a malice that masks each word, each sigh! O, enemy, sly and serpentine, Uncool thee from the waking man! Do I behold the past? This firm and fast Yet doubt if the future hold I can? This path, so soft to pace, shall lead Thro' the magic of May to herself indeed! Or narrow if needs the house must be, Outside are the storm and strangers;— Oh, close, safe, warm, sleep I and she, —I and she. —Mrs. Browning.

AN UNIQUE SCHOOL. Teaching the Young Idea How Not to Shoot. RUSTLER'S GULCH, TEX.—"Yes," said the schoolmaster, as he rolled a fresh cornhusk cigar, "the history of this school would no doubt prove interesting from a newspaper point of view. Its most startling incidents, however, seem commonplace and tame to a frontiersman. This school was started five years ago, and I am the fourth teacher. I have been here two years. About six years ago Mr. Robinson, a great sheep man from the lower country, located in the gulch, and established a ranch here. Many of his herders had families, and being a man of influence and wealth he had no difficulty in establishing a public school and he built this house. The teacher hung his hat up on the floor in one corner and shelved his books in another. The pupils brought sheep-skins to sit upon, and every night rolled them up with their books and piled the lot up in the two unoccupied corners. Well, after Mr. Robinson, the wealthy sheep man I spoke of, had completed his school house he looked about for a teacher, and finally secured the services of an old fellow—an ex-stage driver, who could barely read and write. This country was full of Indians then, and the teacher and larger pupils went armed. He took his meals at Robinson's house, but slept here on the mud floor. He had a weakness for post whisky, and got drunk on the slightest provocation. One Sunday, while he was lying there before the school-room fire in a drunken stupor, a wandering Apache happened in and carried away the schoolmaster's scalp as an educational trophy. This catastrophe caused the school to close, and it remained without a teacher about six months.

One day a very pretty and lady-like young woman rode up to Robinson's ranch and asked for that gentleman. He invited her in and she made known her business. She was a school teacher and anxious to take charge of the Rustler's Gulch school. She gave her name as Miss Emma Graham and entered upon her duties the next day after her engagement. Miss Graham was about 18 years of age. Robinson had a son a year older. There were Indians in the country still, and it fell to young Jack Robinson's lot to escort the pretty schoolmarm to and from the school-house. He rather liked it, and being a good-looking fellow and a trifle more polished than ranchmen's sons usually are, Miss Graham rather liked it also. They became friends, and this friendship developed into a very tender and romantic passion. One night Jack Robinson was missing. The schoolmarm disappeared also. They were both seen afterwards in Chihuahua, Mexico, living together as man and wife. Jack was running a saloon and the sometime schoolmarm was dealing monte.

It was more than a year when the school was again opened. This time the teacher was a woman from the states. The board assembled and began the examination with great solemnity. They asked the most nonsensical questions with the greatest possible gravity, and received the most preposterous answers. "Connected with the examination in mathematics is a story which eventually leaked out and gave the whole thing away. One of the board, Mr. Smith, had a large flock of sheep and they were afflicted with the scab. He was preparing to 'dip' and had purchased many gallons of a patent compound for the purpose. This liquid was to be properly diluted with water. Smith had constructed a big dipping vat, but he did not know how much water it held, and he was anxious to learn its exact capacity so that he would know how much of the patent dip to put in. He gave the dimensions of the vat, and the applicant for the school after a deal of figuring, told him how many cubic gallons it would hold. Smith jotted down this answer and turned the would-be teacher over to Jones. Now Jones was building a new house, and was going to finish it off in the most approved manner, with doors, windows, a shingle roof and plank floors and ceilings. He was about to order the lumber for this house from El Paso, but he didn't know exactly how much to order. He gave the dimensions, and the school marm consulted her little figures and told him exactly how many feet of plank and boards and how many bundles of shingles it would take to build a house of the dimensions given. Well satisfied with his shrewdness, Jones dotted down the answers and passed the applicant to Brown. Brown is the cattle-king of the county and had just staked off ground for a big corral. He had employed an Irishman who had been a navy on the railroad to dig the ditch for the pickets, at so much per cubic yard of earth excavated. He wanted to find out exactly how much his bill would be and he asked Miss Green. She told him. This closed the examination. The trustees consulted a few minutes and gave her the school.

Look to Your Stove Pipes. As the close of winter, as the warm season approaches and less artificial heat is needed, the danger from stopped flues and pipes becomes a serious matter. During the winter large quantities of fuel have been consumed, and soot and ashes have been carried forward and become deposited in those sections of flues where they can obtain a lodgment. In horizontal pipes the accumulations are large, in many cases almost or quite stopping the draft into the chimney, and in vertical pipes soot adheres to the interior surfaces so as greatly to impede the flow of the products of combustion. Under these circumstances the use of stoves and furnaces becomes a source of absolute danger in the spring months, and it should receive prompt attention. In all cases the pipes should be taken down and the deposits thoroughly removed, and this duty can be attended to on a mild day. Furnaces and pipes in cellars should not be permitted to remain without efficient cleaning, as the hazard from coal gas is very great. Remember that the escape of gases into a cellar, or basement is just as dangerous as their escape directly into a sleeping room, as from the law of gaseous diffusion the poisonous products are constantly conveyed all over a house, even when walls of brick and tight floors oppose their passage.—Popular Science News.