

DAKOTA NEWS.

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

The Division of Dakota.

St. Paul Pioneer Press, May 14.

Congressman J. C. Burrows of Kalamazoo, Mich., who was chairman of the committee on Territories during the recent session of congress, was at the Merchants hotel yesterday, having come on from Minneapolis, where he is stopping a few days, being upon a trip to the West. The opportunities which his position upon the committee have given him for forming an opinion relative to the question of the division of Dakota tend to give a good deal of weight to his views upon that important subject. He was found at the hotel by a PIONEER PRESS reporter yesterday, and in reply to the latter's questions said:

"During the last session of congress I made a strenuous effort for the division of the Territory of Dakota on the forty-sixth parallel, and the admission of the southern half of the Territory as a State. A bill was reported from my committee at the first session of the Forty-seventh congress to accomplish both of these objects. It was impossible to secure either end, for the reason that there were some Republicans opposed to voting upon the measure until the Yankton county bond question was settled, and they declared they would never vote for either proposition until that question was settled. At the present session that matter was so far settled as to eliminate it as an objection. In my judgment, the Territory cannot be admitted as a whole, or divided, until after the next presidential election. The question of being in the majority in the lower house, will not consent to the admission of Dakota before the next presidential election by reason of their impression, probably well founded, that Dakota would be a Republican State. So long as either house remains Democratic, congress will not in my judgment consent to division in any form, for the reason that that would mean four Republican senators, and a double representation at the beginning in the lower house. I have no doubt that a year from now North Dakota can be admitted as a whole, if her population be sufficient to entitle her to one representative. The house was brought to a vote repeatedly both upon the question of the admission of the southern half and the division on the forty-sixth parallel. Both these questions arrayed a substantially solid Democratic opposition. In a word, for purely political reasons, no Democratic congress will ever consent to the division of Dakota in any form whatever."

"Then you think there is little prospect for a division of Dakota on the forty-sixth parallel?"

"Yes, sir; there is in my judgment just about as much prospect for a division of Dakota on the forty-sixth parallel as there is for Dakota's being removed bodily over the Canada line."

Doings of the Dakota Commission.

WELLS, Special Telegram, May 14.—The Dakota capital commission left St. Paul at 2 o'clock this afternoon on a special train of three cars, accompanied by Superintendent Prior and Underwood, Hon. J. C. Burrows and ten guests. Bids will be made to-morrow for the capital from Odessa, Bismarck, and perhaps Jamestown. Northerners insist on the commissioners going up to their country and its settled that they will leave Canton about midnight Tuesday, return to St. Paul by this special train, and go thence to the three points named. They would have done so to-day but for the fact that an adjourned meeting was set for Canton Tuesday noon.

ELKTON, Dak., Special Telegram, May 14.—About 100 capitalists and prominent business men from Pierre, Huron, Ordway and other places bidding for capital honors, passed through here this evening on their way to Canton to attend the meeting of the capital commission to-morrow. A vote taken on the train east of Huron in favor of capital location resulted as follows:

Aberdeen.....	17	Huron.....	37
Pierre.....	30	Ordway.....	15

Commissioners McKeen and Mitchell will join the commission to-morrow at Canton.

Opening the Bids.

CANTON, Dak., Special Telegram, May 15.—This morning opened bright and warm after two weeks of gloomy, cold and dismal weather, and the sun smiled upon the capital commissioners, who arrived in a special car at 8 a. m., accompanied by Assistant Superintendent Prior, Hon. W. F. Steele, Ex-Congressman Burrows of Michigan, and others. Large delegations were present from all the principal towns of the Territory, having arrived the night before, Mitchell being especially largely represented. Upon arrival, it was whispered around that the commissioners had recently received bids from North Dakota, which added an element of spice and uncertainty to the forthcoming proceedings. The forenoon was spent in guessing and joking and button-holing until promptly 12 m., when fully 200 interested spectators had assembled before the hall. At 12 the meeting was called to order by President Hughes, who announced if any more bids were to be received they must be presented immediately. No response being made, Secretary Wheelock proceeded to read the minutes of the previous meeting, which were approved. Meanwhile President Hughes had sorted and filed on his desk thirteen formidable-looking sealed envelopes; whereupon Commissioner McKean moved that the bids be now opened and announced to the public. This was slowly proceeded with, and the result of the bids successively announced as follows:

Name	Amount	Acres
Mitchell.....	\$100,000	160
Bismarck.....	100,000	320
Huron.....	100,000	160
Helfield.....	100,000	160
Frankfort.....	100,000	160
Ordway.....	100,000	320
Ordway, also for depot.....	100,000	60
Odessa.....	100,000	160
Steele.....	100,000	160
Canton.....	100,000	160

The bids of Steele and Odessa were accompanied by certified checks for the full amount of money donated, and the announcement of each was received with applause, and Hon. W. F. Steele was called upon for a speech, but did not respond. Other bids, except an informal one from Wessington for \$100,000 and 160 acres of land, and a \$1,000,000 joke by Sioux City were accompanied by certified checks for 20 per cent of the amount of money and abstracts of title to land. At the conclusion of the opening of the bids, Hon. George P. Flannery of Bismarck announced that Bismarck stood ready to guarantee the Territory \$300,000 from the sale of 160 acres of the land donated by that city. On motion of Commissioner Belding, the meeting adjourned until 3 p. m., at which hour it was announced speeches in favor of different locations would be received.

THE NORTH DAKOTA SURPRISE.

After adjournment from opening bids there was a general lull in the previous buzz of conversation, the fact being very apparent that the North Dakota bids had upset all previous calculations, and theories indulged in by South Dakota. There was a grand rush for the map, and hundreds of pencils sought Odessa, and traced prospective lines of railroad. Later, when it became known that the national banks of Bismarck had given written guarantees that the land donated by Bismarck could and would be sold so as to realize \$400,000 in addition to the \$100,000, there was a considerable feeling in favor of Bismarck. The Southern Dakota representatives are unanimous for some Northern Dakota point as second choice in case their own town cannot get it, and it is known that North Dakota can more easily combine on some one point like Bismarck and all pull together, than can the South Dakota candidates. North Dakota is at the present writing the favorite; and as the commission is about to visit the North Dakota cities, the boom is liable to grow into powerful proportions.

ANOTHER FULL AT IT.

At 3 p. m. the public hall was again filled to listen to the claims presented for the several towns by their representatives. Philip Skillman responded for Aberdeen, and in a graceful speech referred to the geographical center and commercial supremacy enjoyed by Brown county. W. S. Wells held that—

Ninety per cent of the people of Dakota are in favor of division on the forty-sixth parallel, which fact should be recorded. Pierre he presented as within six miles of the geographical center. The time was when Yankton was the center of population (laughter), but in time to come the bulk of Dakota's population will be west of the Missouri. The capital should be located for the people, not for the railroads, and many arguments in favor of Pierre were made.

George P. Flannery, on behalf of Bismarck, stated that he spoke at a disadvantage, because the commission had not yet visited his city and could not verify his statements.

If the citizens of Bismarck had faith in the commission, it would give it a hearty welcome, and would acquiesce in its decision. The capital must be located with reference to facts as they do exist. In nine years the population of the Territory has increased 900 per cent. The capital is being located not for a day or a year, but for the grand empire of the whole of Dakota. Bismarck is located on the only transcontinental line, at the junction of a great river, and the \$1,000,000 bridge will attract other railroads. Bismarck is unsurpassed in location and every natural advantage. Bismarck's bid, in fact, is \$400,000 and 160 acres in land, and she is in earnest in this matter. We wish you to come and visit us, see for yourselves, and be VERY SURE.

Hon. Hiram Barber, Jr., was called upon to speak in behalf of Mitchell.

The duty of this commission, he said, is to proceed on known facts, and it is a solidified fact that division on the forty-sixth parallel is the universal desire, and the fact must be considered. The absence of bids from Grand Forks, Fargo and Jamestown is conclusive evidence that North Dakota does not look upon this as a location for aught but South Dakota. Mr. Barber then proceeded to picture the advantage of Mitchell as the capital for South Dakota, and the fact that he is the future commercial center of the southern part of the Territory.

No one being present to represent Redfield, L. G. Johnson marched down the aisle and began to speak for Ordway, being the first speaker applauded upon the announcement of the town.

Mr. Johnson had thought from previous speeches that he was in a real estate office. He believed the commissioners should not deal with dreams, expectations and guesses as to what might be. We have to deal with hard facts. At Ordway is as fine a location for a capital city as can be found. The railroad center of the Territory is already established and by building forty miles of road all north and south Dakota can be united. The location at Ordway gives easy communication with every railroad corporation doing business in his Territory; but it is not the pet of any one road. Every interest is to be considered in deciding this question, and it is your duty to locate with reference to all corporations and the people of Dakota as a whole.

Mr. Johnson was applauded frequently and the commissioners listened attentively. People who have been with the commission from the first assert that Ordway is by far the most promising candidate of any. Mr. Kennedy then spoke very eloquently for Canton, and Mr. Foster for Frankfort. Mr. Melville rose in response to the call for Huron and spoke eloquently and forcibly. Mr. W. F. Steele spoke for the town of Steele and received more applause than any other speaker.

He announced it as an original idea with him to declare Steele the geographical center of the Territory, but other speakers had stolen his ideas. He certified check for \$100,000 was in the hands of the commission, and Steele could boast of being the most enterprising and promising town in North Dakota. He declared that he was responsible for the lack of enterprise on behalf of Grand Forks and Fargo, but that Steele meant business.

At the conclusion of the remarks by Mr. Steele the meeting adjourned, subject to the call of the president. Some of the commissioners will visit their respective homes, making their headquarters at Canton until Saturday night, when, proceeding to St. Paul, Sunday night they will leave for the Northern Dakota towns presenting bids. Sheriff Pat Brennan of Yankton this morning served writs of quo warranto on Commissioners Scott and Spaulding, as had been previously done on other members.

Northern Penitentiary Building

The board of the directors of the territorial penitentiary met at Bismarck, on the 15th. Present: Lounsbury, McLean, Dunn, of Bismarck, Miller, of Wahpeton, and Edwards, of Fargo. A. W. Edwards was elected chairman and J. P. Dunn, secretary. An advertisement was ordered calling for plans and specifications for building a \$50,000 penitentiary, to be considered on the 30 inst.

Dakota Territorial News.

Special agent James of the interior department arrested James C. Curtiss purporting to be from Bridgewater, Dak., for personating one, John Gordon of Iowa. In 1881, Gordon located a homestead in this city. The year following he died, and a short time thereafter, Curtiss came to the land office and represented himself as above noted, made the necessary affidavits and believed himself in possession of the property. He attempted to borrow \$400 on the same and was detected. He was brought before the agents above stated. His case is continued. The evidence is conclusive. The penalty is \$1,000 or ten years imprisonment or both.

Grand Forks people are raising \$10,000 in subscriptions to secure the location in that city of the University of North Dakota.

Fillings at the Bismarck land office last week were 200 per cent. in excess of those for the same time last year.

Frank Bartlett, founder of the town of that name, says the Ward boys never jumped the claim of Miss Jessie Bartlett, or tried to.

A man, name unknown, living eighteen miles southeast of Larimore, was accidentally killed by being cut with a knife. It occurred at a store three miles from Northwood on the Goose river.

Grading is to be commenced immediately on the Carrington branch of the Northern Pacific to Sykesville. As soon as the grading has been completed the construction of the Mouse river road from Carrington will be commenced.

The committee to examine the accounts of Treasurer Thompson of Valley City, have found his books correct, and have signed a statement to that effect.

All machinery for improvements at the Ora Fino mine at Deadwood has been shipped from Chicago, and will be followed by the contractor. Everything will be in readiness for a resumption of mining and milling by the 1st of July.

The Huron Leader publishes extracts from the transcript of evidence by Dr. Burdock of Vermillion, before Yankton grand jury, to the effect that John R. Gamble of Yankton offered him \$10,000 if he would vote against the removal bill on its passage in the legislative council.

Truth is Mighty and Must Prevail

Is a good old maxim, but no more reliable than the oft repeated verdict of visitors that

COOPERSTOWN, DAKOTA,

is the Queen City of a magnificent county and the most beautifully located of the many new and prosperous places of North Dakota. It is the

Permanent County Seat of Griggs County, and, though only a few months old, already has a representation in nearly every branch of business and each man enjoying a profitable trade. Plenty of room for more business houses, mechanics or professional men. Cooperstown is not only the

TERMINUS OF THE S. C. & T. M. R. R., but is also Headquarters thereof. In short, the place is, by virtue of its situation

The Central City of the Central County of North Dakota.

THE GEOGRAPHICAL CENTER! THE COMMERCIAL CENTER!
THE FINANCIAL CENTER! THE RAILROAD CENTER!

and the outfitting point of settlers for fifty miles to the North and West. The energetic spirit of Cooperstown's citizens, who in most cases have not yet reached the meridian of life, the singleness of purpose and unity of action in pushing her interests, have resulted in giving her an envious reputation for business thrift even this early in her history.

GRIGGS COUNTY

is the acknowledged Eden for settlers and home-seekers. Its soil is unsurpassed; its drainage the very best; its climate salubrious, and its railway advantages par-excellent. Public land in the county is becoming scarcer every day, yet there are still thousands of opportunities for the landless to get homes.

GREAT STRIDES

toward Metropolitan comforts have been made in Cooperstown and the wandering head of the weary traveler can here find rest and entertainment at an

BEAUTIFUL AND ELEGANTLY APPOINTED HOTEL,

erected at a cost of \$21,000. The man who becomes a citizen of Griggs county's thrifty capital can have, without price or waiting, the advantages of

GOOD SCHOOLS AND SPLENDID SOCIETY.

The rapidly growing embryonic city of Cooperstown is surrounded on all sides by the very richest lands in North Dakota. Cooperstown, situated as it is in the very heart of a new and fertile region, must boom to keep pace with the

UNPARALLELED RAPID DEVELOPMENT

of the surrounding country. When you stop and consider the facts you will realize the advantages this new town enjoys. It being the terminus of a railroad, the entire country makes it a

UNIVERSAL TRADING POINT,

a fact demonstrated by the merchants already established and enjoying big trades. Cooperstown is not an experiment but is built on the solid rock of commercial industry. Sound investments can be made in Cooperstown city property or Griggs county farm lands by applying to the

COOPER TOWNSITE CO., Cooperstown, D. T.,

Or J. M. BURRELL, Sanborn, D. T.
Plans Sent on Request. Uniform Prices to All.