

DAKOTA DOINGS.

News Gathered From The Most Reliable Sources.

DAKOTA LEGISLATURE.

FEBRUARY 15—In the Council today the Weiser bill, authorizing the railroad commissioners to provide sites for warehouse on railway rights of way, was defeated after debate. Foster's bill providing for the inspection of illuminating oils was passed; ayes 18, nays 5. The house bill repealing the usury law passed; ayes 10, nays 7. From Gov. McCormack a message was received vetoing the divorce bill and a motion to pass the bill, the objections of the governor notwithstanding, was lost; ayes 8, nays 17.

The House in committee of the whole considered the Elliott railroad bill, and finally after amendments enlarging the powers of the railroad commissioners reported it to the House with the recommendation that it pass. Council Bills Passed—Relating to filing of papers in proceedings for civil action; joint resolution to provide for the purchase of session laws.

House Bills Passed—Defining the boundaries of Ward and other counties; relating to the compensation for returning fugitives from justice.

The seed grain bill of Williams of Burleigh went over to general orders for amendment, the House bill providing that each organized county shall have not less than five commissioners was indefinitely postponed. A number of bills were introduced, but all of local import.

FEBRUARY 16—The Council held morning and afternoon sessions, but the entire time was consumed in discussion of the general revenue bill, which is known as council bill No. 4. It prescribes a mode for the listing, assessing and levying of the collection of taxes. This bill, which was introduced early in session by Hughes, of Burleigh, contains 199 sections, covering 95 printed pages. As the council, in committee of the whole, spent the entire day wrestling with the first five sections, it is very evident that at its present rate of progress Dakota will be admitted as a state long before the house in which it originated will have disposed of the bill. The morning session was consumed in deciding how to proceed. The section which provides for the listing for taxation on all credits was the subject of a protracted debate during the afternoon.

Mr. Foster's amendment adding a clause allowing delinquency of debts from credits, except by banks and bankers, was finally adopted. Mr. Hughes moved a declaration that in the listing of all other property, debts and encumbrances might be exempted. This was adopted after lively discussion.

The House spent most of the day in committee of the whole, discussing several bills, the most important of which was the Williams bill, providing seed grain and assistance for farmers whose crops were destroyed by drought and hail. The debate on the provisions of the bill was earnest and protracted. Finally, after several amendments, the bill was reported favorably by the committee and the report was accepted. Final action will probably be taken tomorrow, but which way the cat will jump is yet a matter of conjecture.

Just before adjournment Mr. Elliott moved that his railroad bill, No. 28, which was referred to a special committee, consisting of Messrs Adams, Fletcher and Sprague, be adopted.

FEBRUARY 17—In the Council today five bills passed, three of them originating in the Council and two in the House, and all local. In the House nothing was done beyond the introduction of a number of bills.

Gov. Church reached Bismarck at noon, and at 3:30 p. m. the legislature and the public met in the hall of the House to witness the introduction of that gentleman into the office of Governor of the territory. Attended by Ex Gov. Pierce, Secretary of State McCormack and Treasurer Raymond, Judge Church proceeded to the Speaker's platform, where were Chief Justice Tripp and Associate Justices McConnell, Thomas and Palmer. Chief Justice Tripp administered the oath and Gov. Church proceeded to the delivery of a brief inaugural address, which however contained no recommendations bearing upon legislation. Upon the conclusion of his address Gov. Church was introduced to each member of the legislature and half an hour passed in social interchanges. A public reception will be given Thursday of next week to the Governor by the Territorial officers and citizens of Bismarck.

FEBRUARY 18—Gov. Church nominated today James A. Ward of Sioux Falls, for Territorial Auditor, and the nomination was confirmed by the Council. Later in the day the Council received the nomination of John D. Benton of Fargo for Territorial Treasurer, but the nomination was not acted on, and went over to Saturday. The Council passed the day considering the revenue bill, reaching the 52nd section, leaving 112 sections to be passed upon.

In addition to the introduction of new bills the House passed the following bills: 148 relating to the corporation of towns and cities, preparation printing and filing of official bonds; 98 appropriating \$400 for use of tents for the Fargo militia encampment; 76, requiring Railroad companies to furnish cars on six days notice.

FEBRUARY 19—The Council confirmed the appointment of Col. Benton, as Territorial Treasurer. No further nominations were received, and the Council adjourned to Wednesday, the 23rd.

In the House today the Williams seed grain bill, appropriating \$150,000 was passed. The Elliott railroad bill after a long discussion, passed, yeas 26, nays 4. The Spear Fish normal school bill was amended by reducing the appropriation from \$40,000 to \$20,000 its passage recommended.

WESTERN CHAUTAUQUA.

The Methodists of Southern Dakota have for some time been looking for a suitable location for establishing a western Chautauqua, and Seney Island, in the centre of the city of Sioux Falls, 13 acres in extent, was decided upon as the most desirable location. The island is owned by George J. Seney, the New York millionaire, and a committee was lately sent there to negotiate with him for its purchase. Word has just been received that Mr. Seney has donated the island for the purposes named. The Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul Railroad Company has agreed to run a side track to the island and build a passenger depot there. It is not definitely known what amount of improvements will be placed on the island, but they are understood to be extensive.

TREASURER BENTON.

John D. Benton, appointed Territorial Treasurer, by Gov. Church, was born in Courtland county, N. Y., in 1842, and is 44 years of age. He was educated in the public schools, in Courtland academy and is a graduate of the law department of the Union Un-

iversity, graduating in 1875. He practiced law in Courtland three years, when he moved to Fargo, Dak., where he has since lived. He was a charter member of the First National Bank of Fargo, but is not now connected with that institution. Last fall he received the Independent Democratic nomination for sheriff of Cass county, defeating John Haggart the Republican nominee. Col. Benton is a pleasant gentleman to meet, and has a commanding presence. A flowing, iron-gray beard adds dignity to his bearing.

AUDITOR WARD.

James A. Ward, appointed Territorial Auditor by Gov. Church, was born at West Moreland, Cheshire Co., N. H., in 1847. In 1855 he removed to Warrensville, Ill., and was a school boy of 16 when the civil war broke out, and enlisted as a private in the 8th Illinois Cavalry and served two years. He was a pupil of the Warrensville Institute, and afterward of the Iowa University, graduating from the law department in 1878. He then went to Yankton, and entered upon the practice of law, and later to Pierre, engaging there in the wholesale grocery business. Two years ago he went to Sioux Falls, where he now resides at the head of the wholesale grocery firm of Ward and Frick. Mr. Ward has taken an active interest in territorial affairs, and was a member of the Sioux Falls Constitutional Convention and prominently identified with the minority report of that body which was submitted as a separate proposition. He is a pronounced Democrat in politics, but stands well with members of the Republican party. After the appointment, several prominent Republicans from the southern part of the territory, who are acquainted with the new Auditor united saying that Gov. Church could not have made an appointment more satisfactory to them. As soon as he can arrange his business affairs Mr. Ward will assume the duties of his office.

THE SUPREME COURT.

The February term of the supreme court at Bismarck, closed on the 16th, and was the longest term yet held in the territory. Adjournment was taken to April 2, in Bismarck, when the time and place for holding the May term will be known. Unless the legislature designates another place, the May term will be held at Yankton.

William H. Fellows, of Grand Forks, and Isaac Cross, of Bismarck, were admitted to practice in the supreme court. The former is a member of the legislature and the latter a deputy clerk in the sixth judicial district court. Chief Justice Tripp announced the decisions reached in the following cases:

United States vs. Chas. A. Wood, of Bismarck, judgment reversed; new trial ordered. This is the celebrated Wood murder case. John T. Williams vs. St. Paul, Minneapolis & Manitoba railroad, appeal dismissed; James K. Nichols vs. Henry A. Burns and Edward E. Moore, appellants, and Benedict Howard, of Cass, motion to strike out transcript of abstract and to eliminate the same from record, denied except as it relates to motion for new trial. National German Bank, of St. Paul, vs. P. V. M. Raymond and E. Raymond, of Cass, held under advisement; National Bank of Duluth vs. James A. Jenks, of Grand Forks, judgment affirmed; Henry R. Porter vs. James W. Parker, of Burleigh, judgment and order dismissing the appeal by the district court reversed and the case to stand for trial in the district court; North Star Boot & Shoe Company vs. William Brachwaite, of Burleigh, cause will be reversed and new trial ordered, unless both parties consent to a modification of judgment to conform to the pleadings and the highest proof of value offered in evidence by reducing the amount of the recovery; Edwin Van Cise vs. Merchants' National Bank of Deadwood et al., the judgment in both affirmed in all things by agreement of counsel, a remittance of 60 days was granted and a stay in bond of \$150,000, filed in the case of an appeal by either party; Marcus Bateman vs. Anson Buckus et al., of Morton, in three cases, judgment was reversed and counsel ordered to lower court and judgment ordered in accordance with decision.

Phillip Best Brewing Company vs. Pillsbury & Hulbert Elevator Company, judgment affirmed; Sarah Pattee vs. Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul Railway Company, case reversed; John H. Sarles et al., vs. James L. Sharlow et al., of Stutzman, judgment reversed and a new trial in this district court ordered; Charles Spencer, Charles Butts, M. L. Strong and C. C. Pardor vs. Sully County, judgment reversed and case remanded to the district court for trial; John G. Keck vs. John E. Haggart, of Cass, judgment reversed and a new trial ordered; Alanson W. Edwards vs. Fargo & Southern Railroad Company, of Cass, judgment affirmed; Capital Bank of St. Paul vs. School District No. 85, Cass and Barnes counties, appellant, are argued and ordered largely from the fact that a large number of cases now before Judge Francis involved similar questions to those in this case; Herman Yerkes vs. Samuel McHenry, judgment reversed; Ellen E. Hannaber and Martin J. Hannaber vs. St. Paul, Minneapolis & Manitoba railroad, appellant of Cass, judgment reversed and new trial ordered; P. S. Tyler

vs. Cass county, re-argument was ordered. James A. Haight, clerk of the supreme court during the last two years, having resigned to accept a position with the West Publishing Company of St. Paul, on the editorial staff, J. H. C. Young was appointed to fill the vacancy. Mr. Young is private secretary to United States Marshal Maratta.

GOV. CHURCH'S INAUGURAL.

The following is the address delivered by Gov. Church, to the legislature, after taking the oath of office. Mr. President and Gentlemen—This is the second time that I have had the pleasure of appearing before a joint convention of representatives of the territory of Dakota, and I trust I may be allowed to say with some degree of pleasure that the embarrassing circumstances which have necessarily delayed my inauguration and which perchance may have entailed upon you a want of confidence that would otherwise have attended you in your deliberations, are now at an end.

Therefore I may be permitted to say that not only you, gentlemen, but I, likewise, myself and the people at large, are to be congratulated that those embarrassing circumstances have at last disappeared.

Gentlemen, as I said to you on a previous occasion there is no one who, more than myself, appreciates the importance of the position I here and now assume. I assure you, sincerely and honestly, that it is my wish and heartfelt desire to co-operate with you to the fullest extent in assisting you to do all that you can do to bring peace and prosperity and success to the people of our territory. I trust that the laws we enact will be wise, judicious, conservative. That every interest throughout our broad territory will be treated with consideration and dealt with wisely and in such manner as will inure to our credit and to the welfare of our people.

I shall ever bear in mind that the laws are enforced, and I trust that whatever in your wisdom you may attempt to place on the statute books it will always meet with my hearty approval. I realize the responsibility about to be assumed. I appreciate the confidence reposed in me by the Chief Executive of the nation in honoring me as his choice to be Governor of the empire territory of the West, and I trust that your acts and mine will be jointly and severally such as to commend us to the people of this great territory, and to be worthy of their confidence and esteem.

I pledge to you in their behalf the best energies at my command and by word and act to co-operate with you in endeavoring to advance the peace, prosperity and happiness of our people. We are standing upon the threshold of a great change in one form or another, either as two or a single state. The day is not far distant when we will cast aside the territorial form of government and take our place among the commonwealths of the nation.

During the period of time that must necessarily elapse before we become one of the sister commonwealths our best efforts should be directed in preparing for the change, and by example and precept our policy should be straightforward and manly, constantly keeping in view the fact that we are now more than at any time in the past, laying the cornerstone and perfecting the foundation for our future state.

As we prepare so will we be rewarded. A broad, generous, conservative policy, honest with ourselves, just and fair to each and every interest will have a tendency to relieve our people from much embarrassment, not to say evils, for years to come, and will tend towards the development of all our commercial interests of the territory and the happiness and well being of the community at large. It is our duty to carefully ponder the many important matters that require our consideration, that our laws may be wise, just and equitable to all, and every interest, protecting the weak against the strong; protecting innocence, punishing the guilty, born from an honest and a patriotic interest, and enforced by a fearless and impartial hand.

GENERAL NOTES.

President Cleveland has nominated Charles W. McCrone for postmaster at Alexandria, Dak.

The National Bank of Dakota, at Huron, has been chartered with D. F. Slot president, and J. E. King cashier.

The extension of the time when taxes become delinquent to July 1 is causing much criticism in school districts that expected to pay the expense of the present term from the tax of 1887.

Via Mandan, 19th—The body of a man named Peter Gibbons, over 40 years of age, was found near South Heart, frozen to death. Over \$800 in \$20 gold pieces was on his person. Gibbons lived at Otto on a claim.

The Supreme Court at Bismarck reversed the action of the lower court which condemned to death Charles Woods, who killed the half-breed interpreter at Fort Buford. A new trial is granted and it is now pretty well settled that Wood will not be hanged.

Mrs. J. N. Melton, of Fargo, went to New Orleans in charge of the women's department of the world's exposition two years ago, and claims she did not receive the compensation which she should. She now demands an investiga-

tion of the accounts of the commissioner and his assistant. She has succeeded in getting the Farmers' alliance of Cass, Co., to indorse her demand for an investigation, and resolutions have been sent to Bismarck to this effect.

Col. C. G. Williams, formerly a member of congress from Wisconsin but lately a citizen of Dakota is now paying a visit to Washington, New York and Boston. His errand it is stated, is to organize a loan and land company to aid in developing the resources of Dakota, and to make some money out of legitimate investments if possible. The company is to have its headquarters at Watertown, and Mr. Williams is to be president.

In the case of John Crow vs. John A. Andrus, involving the latter's commuted homestead entry of the southwest quarter of section 10, town 101, range 66, Mitchell, Dak., land district, the Secretary of the Interior has affirmed the decision of the commissioner of the general land office canceling Andrus' claim and giving the land to Crow.

A petition has been forwarded to Washington and referred to the House committee on the District of Columbia, from the grand lodge of Good Templars of Dakota, representing 3,000 members of the order, asking that the right to vote upon the liquor question be granted to the District of Columbia. The petition is signed by the following officers of the order: Theodore Kanouse, J. Bushnell, B. L. Barrett, A. C. Folsom, L. L. Waters, Mrs. J. B. Walbridge, J. A. Wells, E. E. Schribner and G. R. Lanning. It was referred to the committee on the District of Columbia.

Anecdote of Macaulay.

Dramatic Times: Not long ago I was talking with an old gentleman who has for years been in the iron business as a commission merchant in a Western city, who, early in his career, went to England to make a study of iron manufacture in conjunction with a visit for pleasure.

"One day," he said, "I went to a London book store to find a certain work on metallurgy I could not find in America, and while there a pleasant old gentleman came in began looking around pretty much as I was doing. We came together presently, and soon were chatting pleasantly on books and other matters, and I told him who I was and what I was seeking. He told me he knew the work, and though it was rare, thought he might find it, and at once began a search through the racks, shelves, and out-of-the-way corners, and finally came up smiling from a dark place with the book in his hands. I thanked him, and taking the volume to the dealer, I ordered it laid aside, and at the same time ordered the late numbers of Macaulay's works, which were appearing in parts and some of which I had bought in America.

"I told my new friend that in my estimation Macaulay was the greatest English writer, and that I had read everything he had written, as far as I knew. He smiled pleasantly, and after a few moments' further conversation we parted, with the hope of meeting again. The next morning I left London for New York, and when I had settled myself in the compartment assigned me I found my traveling companion to be the old gentleman I had met in the book store the day previously. I was glad to see him and told him I was bound for New York, and he said he was going there, too. This pleased me and I settled down for a good talk, for he was exceedingly entertaining and thoroughly the gentleman. We made no stops for some time, and when we did I noticed a large crowd at the station.

"There must be some distinguished person aboard the train," I said, "and these people are here to see him."

"Possibly," he answered, with a smile like the one he gave me the day before among the books, and we continued our talk. At the next station there was a larger crowd, and getting outside I asked what was going on, and some one told me Lord Macaulay was on the train. I went back to report to my friend.

"Lord Macaulay is on the train," I said: "that's what brings the people out, and I'd give a good deal to see him myself." He smiled again. "I'm Lord Macaulay," he said, with almost a schoolgirl blush, and I reached out with American enthusiasm and shook hands with him so heartily and earnestly that he laughed till tears ran down his cheeks.

"When we reached York he invited me to dine with him, and at the dinner he extended further invitation for me to visit his home and his family, and I did it, and to this day Macaulay is one of my brightest and pleasantest memories."

"I should like," says John Ruskin in a recent letter to a friend, "to see home rule (in my sense of ruling—not yours) everywhere. I should like to see Ireland under a King of Ireland; Scotland under a Douglas tender and true; India under a Rajah; and England under her Queen, and by no manner of means under Mr. Gladstone or Mr. Bright." This confirms the rumor that the Empress of India considers Mr. Ruskin a crank.

Not Impressed by the Queen.

A woman who has seen not a little of social and political life in Washington for the last thirty years is Mrs. Martha J. Coston, writes a correspondent of the Cleveland Leader. In the course of a pleasant chat I asked Mrs. Coston what part of her social experience during a fifteen years' sojourn abroad she enjoyed the most.

"To be candid," she replied, smilingly, "I must confess that my presentations at the English and French courts were to me the most entertaining, because there was so much that was novel, and the glitter and pomp and display was such a striking contrast to our republican way of doing things."

"What did you think of Queen Victoria?"

Mrs. Coston replied: "It was at the princess of Wales' first drawing-room after her marriage that I was presented, and the queen did not receive; but afterward I had a capital opportunity to see her. It was at the launching of the Victoria, at which I was invited to be present by the duke of Somerset. A brilliant company was assembled awaiting her majesty. At last there was a commotion and I supposed the queen was coming. I looked earnestly for some appearance of royalty, but only saw a stout, elderly lady, whose self and toilet, I thought would make a good caricature for Punch as 'The British Matron Abroad.' She was very broad, both of stature and of breath, and her face was red and cross. Her toilet consisted of a large, gayly-plaided poplin, so short in the skirt as to expose the tops of a pair of heavy walking shoes. A long, loose velvet sack fitted so tightly over the full dress that it gave the wearer's figure a barrel-like appearance, and a dark green hat of uncut velvet, its plumes dragged by rain and blown by the wind, was worn on a head that did not suggest familiarity with a crown, but the finishing bluish was a huge muff of royal ermine suspended round the lady's fat neck by a cord, and which, not being in use, wobbled helplessly back and forth over her well-rounded body.

"Who is that funny, fussy woman?" I asked laughingly of my naval escort, a British officer.

"Good heavens, madame!" said he, in a low voice, "that is our gracious sovereign!"

"For a moment I was speechless, but not half convinced, until I noticed that all the gentlemen were standing, hats off, and a fine-looking gentleman, whom I recognized as Prince Albert, joined the lady in plaid, also standing uncovered. The day was cold, bleak and cheerless; the wind whistled around us, and great rain-drops fell. I really felt my first gleam of admiration for her Britannic majesty when she ordered the gentlemen, including her husband, to put on their hats."

A Human Snagger.

It was once my fortune to run across a human being who would have been a prize for Darwin, as he was a fair sample of the genius homo on the way backward; in fact, degenerating, and, as far as I could judge, in advance of the gorilla inasmuch as the man could build a fire. I was riding across country in Maryland, about twenty miles from Washington, when I came upon what appeared to be a muskrat's nest, only at the top there was a hole, blackened around the edges. A further investigation showed a side opening about large enough to allow a man to crawl in. I knocked by tossing a corn-stalk down the chimney, and in a few moments there appeared from the door a negro so hideous, so bestial in every feature, that my very horse backed off. It was the missing link, if there ever was one, and the jargon of sounds that the creature uttered only added to the strangeness of his appearance. I could not understand a word, and rode over the fields to a house where the owner not only gave me the history of the strange being, but induced me to crawl into the den after him. The man could only talk in a gibberish understood by his employer. He was not an idiot, as we might have supposed, but was simply, as my acquaintance put it, a type of the lowest kind. He had owned him before the war, and he was valued as a laborer, preferring to work in ditches, often up to his waist in water, where he would wallow like a hog. His ex-owner told me that the man claimed to have been a prince in his native country, that he was sold as a slave and brought to Florida, and finally again sold here. At that time he was being paid a nominal sum, which he gave to an alleged relative, reserving only enough to supply himself with food and tobacco. The underground burrow was reached by crawling through a short tunnel that led into a room below the surface of the ground, with room for three or four persons to sit, but not stand. In one corner was a fire hole, but the sides of the hole were baked and blackened by the smoke that must have filled the room. Two or three tin dishes, a pile of cornstalks as a bed, completed the outfit of this human being, who lived here winter and summer. This was a number of years ago, and if this specimen has gone on reverting and degenerating he may (time being no object) have reached a more comfortable stage, and now be found covered with a coating of hair or fur, have forgotten how to build a fire, and be on the confines of that bald and toothless time that is predicted for the future human race so cheerfully by a German scientist.—San Francisco Call.

Professor—"What would you do in case you happened to discover that there was still life in a body that you were dissecting?" Student—"I would ask the subject if he was agreeable to my going on with the operation."—Flying Blatter.