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# The Canton Advocate.

"Hew to the Line, Let the Chips Fall Where They May."

VOL. II.

CANTON, D. T., WEDNESDAY, JUNE 6, 1877.

NO. 3.

## Township Organization.

We have been frequently questioned, since the call made for an election to be held June 23d, as to the authority of the Board of County Commissioners to call a special election, and also as to some of the main features embodied within the Township act. As to the power of the County Commissioners to call the election, the act providing for organization of civil townships, says that "Whenever the County Commissioners of any county shall deem it expedient, they may submit, at a special election called for that purpose, at least 60 days before any general election, the question whether the system of township government shall be adopted." &c. Thus the power of the Board to submit the question is unquestioned and regulated by law; and if submitted, must be at a special election. If a majority of the entire vote cast at the election, June 23d, be in favor of organization, then it will be the duty of the Commissioners to divide the county into civil townships, fix and determine the boundaries, and number the same; only they can not divide or create more townships than would exceed one half of the number of Congressional townships within the county. The present boundaries and organization of such towns as are organized will remain as now established, unless the Board deem proper to provide otherwise.

A town when organized control their own highways and bridges, and their own poor, and are empowered to vote such sums of money as may be necessary for the maintenance of the same. The officers are three Supervisors, one Clerk, one Treasurer, one Assessor, two Justices of the Peace, and two Constables, all elected for one year, except the Justices of the Peace and Constables, who hold for two years.

The Supervisors have charge of all the affairs of the township, as are not committed to other township officers, and can draw warrants on township for disbursement for defraying incidental expenses of township and all other monies raised for any other purpose. They can sue and recover for all fines and penalties incurred by any officer or inhabitant of the town and the money collected shall be paid to the Township Treasurer.

The organized towns are exempt from the payment of a general county tax for road or bridge purposes, and the town Supervisors shall levy such tax as they deem necessary for road or bridge purposes, not exceed one per cent of the assessed valuation. The Board also constitute a Board of Health, and can exercise all the powers necessary for the preservation of public health.

The Treasurer receives all monies belonging to the township, or which by law are required to be paid into the township Treasury, drawing from the county Treasurer such monies as have been received for the use of the township.

The Assessor assesses the property, and receives \$2 per day for his services. The Clerk receives \$1.50 per day when attending to business for the town, and the Supervisors each can receive not more than \$20 in any one year for services.

The town can contract no debts or make expenditures for any one year in a larger sum than the amount of taxes assessed for such year without being authorized by a majority vote, and no township can assess for township purposes, more than 3 mills on the dollar for any one year.

From the above brief summary of the law, it will be seen that the town has control of its own highways and bridges, repairing and building as they choose; levying their own tax and disbursing it themselves. It also does the assessing through the Assessor chosen by the inhabitants, and are, through the fact of being organized, relieved from any general county tax for roads or bridges, to be built elsewhere within the county.

Individually, we have never lived outside a township village, or city corporation, and feel unprepared to discriminate knowingly between the precinct and corporate organization; but it seems clear to our mind, as at present advised, that the argument, if any, is in favor of the Township organization, as the nearest you can come to letting the people disburse their own money, and build the bridges where needed and repair their highways within their immediate neighborhood, and under the direction of persons by them selected for that purpose, the better satisfied they will be; they know their own immediate wants, better than men at a distance. It will certainly be a relief to the County Commissioners to be removed from a position that is sometimes imposed upon them because they do not construct certain bridges in some portions of the county. It also will result in giving us better roads, in that each town will see that they are worked and kept in repair. There are many reasons that can be urged in favor of Township organizations, while we can perceive but one that possibly might with force be used against it, by any town that is so situated, as to streams and roads, as to require a heavy outlay for bridges or the construction of and in keeping in repair roads that are difficult to build and expensive to keep in repair. Such a town, if any there are, would naturally desire this expense borne by the county at large.

We should be pleased to publish any communication for or against the question of Township organization that any and of course good reasons may be given for an adverse opinion than that we now have. At the present outlook it is thought that a majority vote in favor of the measure will be given, election day.

## Local Items.

—THE rain Monday night caused the hoppers to suspend operation on Tuesday.

—DR. E. Y. BROWN, from Minneapolis, has located in Canton, opening an office at Keller's Drug Store.

—BISHOP CLARKSON, assisted by Rev. W. P. Huntington, will hold service at Keller's Hall, this evening.

—J. L. JOHNSON will leave Monday the 11th, with his family, for the Hills. Frank his son, will remain and carry on the hotel business at the old stand.

—ALL the small grain as seen from the road between Canton and the Falls, looks thrifty, and rye is headed and out of harms way by the young hoppers.

—We have received a communication for publication, minus the name of the writer, which bars its publication. All communications must be accompanied with name.

—A LARGE number of people went over to the meeting at Beloit on Sunday, at which the morning sermon was delivered in English, and the afternoon in the Norwegian language.

—G. J. SKINNER has established an agency at Canton, for the sale of agricultural implements, his agent Mr. Petit, will be found at the building formerly occupied by I. L. Moore, on Main Street.

—REV. DR. HOYT, of Yankton, accompanies Bishop Clarkson in the annual visitation; the venerable form of Dr. seems to be touched but lightly, since we first listened to his preaching 25 years ago.

—A CONVENTION composed of members of the Reformed Lutheran church, is being held at Beloit, many of the Lincoln county people appear to be in attendance, as many pass our office daily enroute to and from.

—ARE we to have a celebration the 4th, or did Centennial suffice? If any is to be had, it is none too soon to begin to consider the matter, as four weeks from today is the anniversary of American Independence.

—WASB PERCIVAL, one of Canton's faithful, came up from Elk Point on a visit to his uncle, J. L. Johnson and family, prior to their departure to the Hill. Mr. Percival is in Capt. Hughes office, under whose tutorage he is preparing for admission to the Bar.

—SILVER STAR No. 4, A. F. & A. M. Installation of Officers will take place in Masonic Hall, Canton, D. T., Monday, June 18th, at 8 o'clock p. m. Brethren are requested to be present.

W. H. MILLER, Sr., W. M.

WM. M. CUPPETT, Sec.

—G. J. SKINNER, of Sioux Falls, had O. A. Rudolph construct a sheet iron 'hopper-catcher on Tuesday with which he illustrated that it is worth trying, as large quantities of hoppers were impaled in a very short time by Skinner and Judge Gifford. Would it not be well for farmers to try this; it is inexpensive, costing but \$1.00.

—THE hoppers are no w evidently at their height, as to numbers; Saturday Sunday and Monday, being warm and clear days, the pests have appeared more numerous and active. Cap. Harlan and Sheriff Dixon, whose farms join, say that they were eating rapidly in their fields the last two mentioned days, bidding fair to sweep them clear.

—We have reason to feel proud of the Canton Band. Saturday evening our citizens were favored with an outdoor concert, which served to cheer those within hearing, and to forget the infamous pests that are ravaging the fields. The gentlemen composing the band are entitled to great credit for the labor and time bestowed upon their exercise, and for one we feel grateful that their efforts afford the pleasure that prevails.

—WITH all the unfortunate reputation Dakota has abroad, as to its grasshopper affliction, we have seen within the past week several gentlemen of our former acquaintance in Wisconsin, who are here to invest in real estate. One gentleman was the owner of lands in Minnehaha county, that he had not seen until within a few days, the result of his visit will be the purchase of more land. His theory is, that the 'hopper is only a question of time, that stock raising can and will, beyond all question, become the leading and profitable business of this county, better crops of wheat have been raised here even during hopper season, than in many portions of Wisconsin, that once yielded beyond precedent; some of the gentleman referred to, will remain here, regardless of the liability of a failure of crop this year.

ICE CREAM  
At Billy Robinson's Restaurant,  
EVERY SATURDAY AND SUNDAY,  
BY THE DISH, QUART OR GALLON.

MARRIED.

JOHNSON—INGRAM—June 3rd, at the Johnson House, Canton, D. T., by Rev. V. B. Conklin, of Lincoln County, Mr. Frank Johnson and Miss Idell Ingram, of this place.

Though all regret the departure of the former host and lady, we bespeak a bright future to the inmates of the Johnson House, now to be conducted under the proprietorship of Frank and his estimable lady; both of whom have afore been initiated into the calling they now assume. May the happy pair be permitted to sail beneath a fair sky and anchor in a peaceful haven.

V. B. C.

## ODDS AND ENDS.

—Gen. Logan, will be collector of customs, at Chicago, after July 1st.

—The National debt has been reduced in eleven months over 36,000,000.

—The District Court in Minnehaha Co., adjourned on Friday morning, to July 17th, 10 o'clock a. m.

—The Illinois Legislature at its last session, appropriated nearly \$7,000,000 for the meeting of State expenses.

—Fletcher Harper, one of the firm of Harper Brothers, was buried at New York May 31st.

—Four chiefs of Divisions in the printing Bureau at Washington, have been removed and others appointed in their place.

—A French editor in Paris has been fined 4,000 francs, for insulting President McMahon.

—J. L. Motley, the American Historian, died of paralysis, at the residence of his son-in-law at Kingston, England.

—Ohio is after another appointment. Anderson, a colored gentleman from that State, wants to be minister to Hayti.

—Gov. Cullon, of Illinois, has vetoed the bill, passed by the Legislature of that State, making silver a legal tender.

—Deadwood is witnessing a slight stampede up the Creek, where it is reported rich diggings have been struck.

—The BonHomme Democrat, published by Andy Cogan, is to be discontinued, and substituted by a 7 column paper, to be called The Dakota Citizen.

—Gen. Logan declines the appointment of collector of customs at Chicago, being the second appointment proffered him, both being declined.

—The two men Hughes and Mullins, who attempted to rob the tomb of Lincoln of his remains, have been tried and sentenced to one year in the Penitentiary.

—The ladies of the Congregational Society at Sioux City, had a strawberry and ice cream festival last Thursday, at which they received \$196.32.

—H. C. Anderson, of Sioux City, had a trench dug 100 feet long and 3 feet deep, in which he caught 15 or 20 bushels of hoppers.

—A boy, when in the New York National Exchange Bank, the other day, grabbed a \$10,000 package when the cashier's back was turned; he was not captured.

—The hoppers in the vicinity of Cherokee, Iowa, are reported as "dying off in great numbers," they appear first weak and stupid, and scarcely able to move when disturbed.

—William Sexton, in a champion game of billiards with Joseph Dior, at New York, for \$1,000 and the championship, won the game in a score of 600 points, to Dior's 442.

—At Burlington, Iowa, on the same day a waterspout burst, flooding the country northwest of the city, doing several thousand dollars worth of damage to foundry, machine shops and agricultural works.

—Montreal is again the scene of conflagration, which destroyed about 60 houses, most of them occupied by people unable to stand the loss. The fire broke out at 1 o'clock Wednesday morning.

—Petitions somewhat numerous signed, that was to have been presented to the President, asking for the removal of Fred Douglas from the marshmanship of the District of Columbia, have been withdrawn.

—The Replevin suit tried at the Falls last week, which involved the right to the possession of the Pantograph office, now in possession of R. Buchanan, resulted in a verdict and judgment against the defendant, R. Buchanan.

—The Journal notices the sudden death of Edward J. Collin, who was a wholesale liquor dealer. Father Leuehan conducted the funeral services at the Catholic church. The procession was said to be the largest ever known in Sioux City.

—The receipts of the American missionary association for the year 1876, was \$264,709. It has 37 missionary's and 193 teachers, and in the South 70,000 scholars are being taught by some of the association's former pupils.

—Sioux City is fast being relieved of its tramps, since the Marshal provides them with food and lodging, provided they will work and labor upon the streets. They have been a source of great annoyance to the inhabitants, from whom they have been constantly begging.

—The body of Jacob Shalter was found below Chantier Creek, pierced with bullets. He had been left alone to guard some Black Hills freight that the Steamer Carroll had left there. The Elk Point Courier speaks in very high terms of the deceased.

—AN affidavit of prejudice of the Judge having been filed by Corson. Judge Shannon appointed Judge Bennett to preside at the adjourned term, to be commenced July 17th, at Sioux Falls, and if for any cause Bennett should be unable to attend, then Judge Barnes will preside.

—Mount Carmel, Ill., was visited by a severe storm last Monday, which destroyed \$500,000 worth of property and killed 20 persons, wounding 50 and about 30 are missing. The Presbyterian and Methodist churches, two school houses, the Court House and several stores and residences were destroyed.

—A tidal wave swept over the group of Sandwich Islands May 10th, doing great damage. At Waika, buildings were swept away, lives were lost, and many people were bruised and had their limbs broken; some of the waves were 16 feet high, and one Hospital at Coconut Island was carried away.

—The Press states that one Loveland, of Omaha, has received direct from Washington, a \$20,000 contract for surveying the Black Hills, this entirely ignoring the Surveyor General of Dakota, who did not even know of the contract until after the parties engaged in it had passed up with their outfit. There seems to be some queer work, or surroundings at or about the Surveyor's office for Dakota.

—St. Paul Pioneer-Press has a long article about grasshoppers, in which among other sayings, is the following: "Fighting the hoppers; the sheet iron 'hopper-dozer' coming into general use in all infested localities; they work to a charm wherever they have been tried and the farmers are greatly encouraged; the crops are in splendid condition, and the people determined to save them."

—The Northwestern Stage Co., have informed the Department at Washington, that they will not carry the mails to Pierre and Sully long, at the present rates, claiming that for 275 miles tri-weekly services they only get \$3,572 per annum, while from Bismarck to Deadwood 220 miles, \$14,000 is paid, and from Kearney to Deadwood 330 miles, \$22,700 is paid, and for daily services from Cheyenne, a distance of 279 miles, \$30,000 is paid.

—The Sioux City Journal again tallies one in its forward march. A new ten horse engine from the foundry of J. P. Dennis & Co., has been added to the power, so that five presses are now running. The last addition brings the heretofore dormant cheek of the proprietors to the surface, whereby they are emboldened to say, "We defy competition, and say to everybody desiring work in our line that we guarantee the best and the cheapest in the country." Bon voyage.

—Ann Cant, and her son-in-law James Foster, were indicted and arraigned, for the manslaughter of James Cant, at Sioux Falls. James was the husband of Ann; from outside statements, it is either a case of brutal cruelty and starvation, or the part of the defendants, or the charge is an unwarranted base fabrication, as presented by the witnesses who established the offense before the Grand Jury. The trial will be had at the adjourned term in June.

—The Steamship, San Francisco, from Panama, when 80 miles from Acapulco, Mexico, ran into a hidden rock which split the hull to the length of 60 feet; 167 passengers were all saved in small boats, but the vessel is a total wreck, and the cargo composed of velvets, silks, laces &c., and valued at \$750,000, is also lost, and all the money which was in the pursers hand is lost. The passengers were rescued by the Mexican gunboat Costa Rica.

—In the vicinity of Sioux City, Cherokee and LeMars, Iowa, and in several places in Minnesota, and at Sioux Falls, D. T., many 'hopper-catchers have been constructed of sheet iron, by which and the use of lye and kerosene immense numbers of grasshoppers have been destroyed. It is the first general warfare ever inaugurated against them in America, and bids fair to produce favorable result.

—Bismarck was the scene of another shooting affair Monday the 28th ult.—John Dart was shot twice, one ball entering left breast and coming out the back, another entering the wrist, coming out at the elbow. Some of the women of the house were arrested, but Dart will not tell who fired; it occurred at the establishment of Bannigan, who is now under sentence to be hung. John McMahon was also shot at by Castello, the ball grazing his head.

—Citizens along the Jim River, and on the line of the route to the Black Hills from Yankton, via Firesteel, express their disapprobation through the Press at the Yankton people, favoring the River route to Pierre, claiming the Jim River route is 35 miles nearer, and that Yankton people are under more obligations to them than to citizens along the Missouri, as the latter are rivals in trade, while the former are being taught by some of the association's former pupils.

—The Union county court convenes June 5th. There are 100 cases docketed. The most important is the case of Clay County vs the bondsmen of R. J. Simenson late County Treasurer, wherein the county sues for \$8,000, the full amount of the bonds. It will be remembered that during Simenson's term of office \$3,000 in cash and nearly all the records were buried through carelessness or neglect. The attorneys for the people are Mr. Lewis, assisted by Hon. A. E. Hughes; for the defense, Hon. J. P. Kidder, Bartlett Trip and Col. Jolley have been retained. A sharp legal fight is expected.—Union County Courier.

—It is pretty well settled fact that the grasshoppers which are hatching in southern Dakota are disappearing about as fast as they are brought into existence. The large number produced rendered it impossible for them to be destroyed by human agency and we therefore attribute their disappearance to natural causes. Hoppers have been hatching for the past six weeks, but their numbers are not increased. Neither do the individual hoppers show any difference in size and there are none to be which can be credited with six or even three weeks' growth. The presumption is that they live less than a week after being brought into the world. People with an abiding faith in Providence have always insisted that the grasshoppers would eventually become extinct and it looks now as though the process was going on. We can not learn that any serious injury has been done to crops in this portion of Dakota.—Yankton Press.

—Saturday morning, upwards of 200 returned Black Hillers left Yankton on the down train.

## Special Correspondence from the Black Hills.

DEADWOOD, D. T.,  
May 16th, 1877.

EDITOR CANTON ADVOCATE: I received your paper of May 2nd, a few days since, and was reminded thereby, of a promise to write you a letter, after reaching this place. I will refrain from saying anything about our trip out here, which was so tedious and disagreeable that it is hard for me to refer to without using language that would be very unbecoming. We arrived at Rapid City, Sabbath morning April 22d. Rapid City is the first sign of civilization you see, after leaving Pierre. It is situated on the south bank of Rapid Creek, at the base of the foot hills, and is, I should say, a burg of 150 inhabitants. The buildings are all log cabins, one story high, covered with earth, and with a few exceptions, earth floors. It has a beautiful location with good mountain scenery south and west; and they claim its geographical location to be the center of Pennington county. Monday morning we renewed our pilgrimage; must see the elephant—that illustrious yearling—Deadwood. Between Rapid City and Deadwood we passed through Crook City. It is situated in the mouth of Whitehead Gulch, 36 miles west of Rapid, and by the road, 12 miles north of Deadwood; it is a town of about 400 inhabitants, has a pleasant location, at least you would think so after seeing Deadwood; any place I ever saw is a paradise when compared with it.

Well, on the 27th day of April, A. D. 1877, we first beheld the object of our search; your first sight of Deadwood, from the centennial road, is from a point almost directly above it, and within a stone's throw of the central part of the town. Deadwood is situated in Whitehead Gulch, just below the mouth of Deadwood Creek. Its one street runs up and down the gulch, making the same number of twists and turns the gulch does, and narrows and widens with the gulch, so that at some places it is wide enough to be almost respectable while at others it is so narrow that it will barely admit a team and wagon. But its uneven, crooked street and unpleasant exterior, are not its most objectionable features. The street seems to be a general depository for all kinds of filth; and within the limits of the town, are the decaying carcasses of dead horses, mules, oxen, &c., which emits their nauseous vapors, tainting the air, in some localities, so that it requires a strong stomach to maintain its equilibrium. Cholera and smallpox, it seems, must be the consequence. There has been several cases of the latter and I was told yesterday there was several smallpox patients in town at the present time. The actual population of Deadwood will not exceed 2,000, but at present there is not less than 10,000 in and around the town; every hotel and boarding house is full to overflowing and every room and cabin is crowded so there is hardly room for one more. A person coming to Deadwood is very fortunate to get a cover to sleep under, a bed out of the question.

Go in any direction you choose within five or six miles of Deadwood you can see a constant stream of people passing to and fro in every direction, many of them with packs on their backs that would make a pack-man shudder. They have with them, on their backs, a pack containing their bed, board and wardrobe, to which is generally added a pick, shovel, gold-pan, rifle and revolver. There is in and around Deadwood, at a low estimate, 8,000 men looking for work, and hundreds of them are dead broke and would gladly work for their board, but the work is not here to be done, nor will not be this summer. The mines, as far as yet discovered, in the entire hills, will not employ to exceed 1200 men and there are between 20,000 and 30,000 people in the Hills at the present time and hundreds coming in every day. Deadwood, as well as all of the other towns of the Hills, is supported by the pilgrims that are constantly flowing in; and as soon as immigration ceases, Deadwood, in a measure, will cease with it; buildings that now rent in Deadwood for \$250 per month, I predict, before next December, can be had by simply occupying them. Deadwood, in my judgement, has reached the apex of its existence; every thing now is at a white heat, I would only like to be a property owner to dispose of the property. There is nothing in or about Deadwood to keep it up; of course agriculture is out of the question in its vicinity, and there is not mineral enough found as yet, in its vicinity to pay a month's rent at its present rental. There is absolutely nothing but some placer claims along Whitehead, half of which do not pay the expense of working, and are not being worked; even if they were rich they would not be of any permanent value to Deadwood, for one season would work them all out. Deadwood Creek and its affluents are the only creeks in the Hills that are paying anything worth mentioning, except probably Negro Gulch in the western part of the Hills, at the head of Deadwood Creek. There are some quartz claims being worked and there are several stamp mills in the vicinity of Gayville, on Deadwood Creek, and they say they are taking good pay out of the stone they crush. I am informed by the best authority and old miners that there has not been a defined quartz load found in the Hills; they are nearly all cement rock and placer deposits; how extensive this is and how rich is yet to be determined.

## ADVERTISING RATES.

One column..... \$34.00  
One-half column..... 18.00  
One-fourth column..... 10.00  
One-eighth column..... 6.00  
Business Cards of six lines or less, \$5.00 per year or each additional line, \$1.00.

Legal advertisements inserted at legal rates.  
\$27 All advertising accounts settled monthly.

CORRESPONDENCE.  
Correspondence solicited from all parts of the county, on any matters pertaining to local news. All communications must be accompanied by the writer's name, not necessarily for publication, but as guarantee of good faith.

JOHN PRINTING.  
Orders for all kinds of Job Printing promptly attended to, quickly filled, and satisfaction guaranteed.

If there is to be a town of any permanency in this part of the Hills, it will be Gayville. Gayville is situated on Deadwood Creek about 3 miles from Deadwood; it is a town of about 500 inhabitants and is surrounded by the richest ground in the Hills, both placer and quartz; it also has a decided