

Bismarck and Vicinity.

FRIDAY, JULY 11, 1873.

THE TRIBUNE was mailed to nearly 2,000 banks and bankers last week.

THE N. P. R. is building a large warehouse at Bismarck.

PARTIES are engaged in putting up 1,500 tons of hay for Fort A. Lincoln.

THE corps of Charles Page, who died at Fort A. Lincoln last winter, was shipped to Detroit, Mich., this morning.

TWO Meadow King Mowers (new) at the Empire Store, opposite the printing office.

TWO Horse Rakes at the Empire Store, opposite the printing office.

A complete assortment of Green House Bedding Plants and Shrubbery.

SAFETY & HILL, Duluth, Minn.

SURVEYS have commenced operations on the unsurveyed lands in Dakota, principally between the Red and the James Rivers.

FATHER KELLER, of Duluth, preached his first sermon at Bismarck July 10th. A Catholic chapel will be erected at an early day.

THE Red River Star concedes that Bismarck is as large already as Fargo and Moorhead combined. Its editor spent the 4th here, on his return wrote a glowing account of his visit.

N. P. CLARKE, of St. Cloud, has 400 head of cattle ranging over the prairies in the vicinity of Bismarck. He has the contract for furnishing the military posts with beef.

C. E. RICH is in town looking around for grounds for a nursery. One hundred acres are being broken up by him between Wapeton and Fargo for tree culture. A branch institution will be opened here.

B. LYLE, Fort A. Lincoln, sends the TRIBUNE an interesting account of the death of Geo. P. Spies, 17th infantry, who was drowned in Apple Creek two or three weeks ago, but too late for publication.

ONE lot at Bismarck yields a ground rent of \$1,200 yearly. In many instances parties pay from \$20 to \$40 per month for the use of sufficient ground on which to put a building. Front street is almost one solid block of buildings. On the five blocks built up there are now between fifty and sixty buildings.

THE Indians at Fort Berthold have 2,000 acres under cultivation, and included in their products is 40,000 bushels of corn annually. The corn is a small but early variety, called the Red corn, yielding from 25 to 40 bushels to the acre. They raise all kinds of vegetables and several hundred acres of wheat. Their wheat last year averaged 25 bushels to the acre. This one hundred miles north of Bismarck.

MRS SMITH'S train passed through Bismarck yesterday for Fort A. Lincoln. It consists of 23 wagons, all new, 100 mules, and 25 men. Smith sold out in Texas last winter, purchased a new outfit expecting to accompany the expedition but was one day too late. He has the contract for handling the lumber for the cavalry post at Lincoln, amounting to nearly three million feet.

IT was mentioned last week that the Congregational Church building was put up without expense to the people. This is not wholly true as they are asked and expected to pay a bill of \$90, for labor. The people, however, appreciate the favor extended to them by Mr. Gates and will not doubt cheerfully raise this sum. Fifty dollars has already been paid in leaving a balance of forty dollars to collect.

TWENTY-FIVE Indiana editors, who are making a tour of the Northern Pacific, left Fargo last evening on a special train for Bismarck. They are accompanied by their wives, sisters, or lady friends. Indeed, on leaving special orders were given to allow no man to come without a lady. Were it not for this unpleasant but unusual wind, they would no doubt enjoy themselves very much.

THERE was a great demand for the TRIBUNE of last week, and the papers were sent from one end of the country to the other, and not a few to foreign lands. The Post Office sold what stamps they had in no time. The one cent, two cent, three cent, and even fifteen cent stamps, were all exhausted in mailing papers; and three cent stamped envelopes largely used. The Post Office has since, however, received an abundance of one cent stamps, of which 2,500 were taken in a few minutes after their arrival.

A YOUNG man asked an Indian scout Wednesday to allow him to see his gun a moment, and as soon as he got it in his possession ran off with it. That evening the Indian discovered him and tried to keep watch of him while another went for a guard. The fellow tried to run and the Indian shot at him. He was captured and is now in the guard-house. It won't do to fool with the scouts in that manner as Uncle Samuel will take a hand in games of that kind.

The Indiana Editors.

THE TRIBUNE has been delayed 24 hours unavoidably which enables us to announce the arrival of the Indiana party. They arrived to-day, July 17th, at 1 P. M., and were escorted to the St. James where dinner had been provided for them. The fearful wind which prevailed all day prevented them from visiting Fort A. Lincoln as intended. The Warsaw band, consisting of twelve members, accompanied the party. The following is a complete list of the names of the editorial party:

- C. G. Powell, La Porte Herald, President.
- T. C. Mays, Auburn Courier, Secretary.
- Gen. E. Williams, Warsaw Indianian.
- H. G. Thayer, Plymouth Democrat.
- E. F. Tamm, Plymouth Republican.
- J. D. Thayer, Wasasha Republican.
- S. W. Gifford, Warsaw Union.
- S. S. Bessell, Green Point Register.
- H. E. Kennedy, Waterloo Press.
- D. McDonald, Rochester Sentinel.
- W. L. Wainwright, LaPorte Argus.
- F. B. Thomas, Winamac Democrat.
- L. W. Klemm, Fort Wayne Sentinel.
- W. M. Tarasoff, Golden Finer.
- Thos. Faragher, LaPorte Herald.
- Miss Laura Bean, Cos. Clin. Commercial.
- M. A. Reed, Argus Republican.
- W. A. Hall, Col. City Post.
- A. J. Marley, Hamilton Democrat.
- S. P. Gilroy, Elkhart Union.
- H. F. Dunham, South Bend Union.
- O. W. Ingles, Southern Mirror.
- S. H. Hays, Fort Wayne Gazette.
- R. H. Serick, La Grange Standard.
- J. W. Clark, Argus Republican.
- Geo. Moon, Warsaw Indianian.
- C. T. Mattingly, Rochester Spy.

Writers for the Bismarck Tribune.

The Bismarck Sabbath-School.

YOUR DEAR READER: Bismarck has a Sabbath School! Bismarck, the ranch abused,—the greatly written up,—the talked about,—the home of frontier roughs, and the town of untaught barbarians, has long had a Sabbath School of which any town might be proud.

A Sabbath School too, in which its workers, few in number, though they be, feel that their each successive meeting is a long step toward the realization of the Christian's hope,—in very sooth,—a Sabbath day's journey heavenward!

A little history of this organization may not be without interest to the readers of the TRIBUNE.

On the 8th of August, 1872, the Ida Stockdale landed at the—then little village of Edwinton, Co. D., of the 17th Infantry, who took post and pitched their tents on the plain, where Camp Hancock now stands. The town then consisted of a few rough log houses and canvas saloons, the inhabitants being chiefly saloon keepers and backwoods-men, who were "roughing it" in genuine frontier fashion.

A few families were here, however, and others came the week following. With the troops was Mrs. Slaughter, wife of the Post Surgeon, who soon formed an agreeable acquaintance with the little folks of the village, which led to daily visits on their part to her tent. Learning from their childish conversation, that some of them had been pupils in eastern school, and still remembered regretfully their lost advantages, she determined to open a little Sabbath School that supply in small measure, the absence of better means of instruction.

This was on Saturday, August 24th. A canvass of the town was made the same evening, and next morning, eight little children, with their teacher, assembled at the office of the L. S. and P.S. Land Company, which had been courteously placed at their disposal. This was the beginning of the Bismarck Sabbath School. To be sure it would have looked oddly enough to a visitor fresh from eastern schools, with their perfect drill, swelling music and interesting lessons. There were no testaments, no hymn books, no paper. Nothing but the teacher and the children!

But at the close of that hour's lesson, every child had learned, and could repeat perfectly, the little verse so dear to childish hearts: "Suffer little children to come unto me, and forbid them not; for of such is the Kingdom of Heaven." They also learned to sing one verse of the little hymn, "I want to be an angel," not only learning the air, but committing the words to memory, from merely oral instruction. What Sabbath School scholar can show a better record for one day?

Teacher and scholars separated mutually pleased, and on the following Sabbath, met again in the same place, with an increase of four pupils. The prospect of the little school looked bright, but unfortunately there was then, no Sabbath day in Bismarck. Its homanizing influence had not reached us. The business of the Land Company increased, and impatient claim holders began to hang around the office doors, anxious for the close of the hour's service that they might enter to secure pre-emption deeds and valid titles to their prairie claims and corner lots.

Under the circumstances it was thought best to hold meetings in the teacher's tent; and through all summer the same little group of happy, bright-faced children, assembled each Sabbath morning under the battered army canvas, sang their little hymns of praise, and patiently committed to memory, word by word and sentence by sentence, Bible verses and extracts suited to their years and understanding. Many times were letters written, and appeals made to benefit societies in the east, and several times packages of books and papers were sent by friends at home, but none of them ever reached us. But the school flourished despite many drawbacks. The children seated themselves wherever they could find available space, the elder ones on the tops of trunks, packing chests and army boxes, while the very little ones were seated

on the floor, (i. e., the ground covered with a carpet,) where the irrepressible Baby Rose usually succeeded in involving them all in a general tramp. It would indeed have been a novel sight for eastern eyes to witness, and very unlike a Sunday School, but no teacher ever found more willing minds or interested listeners.

In September the tents of Camp Hancock were struck, and "the army went into winter quarters."

The log house of Dr. Burleigh, the first house in Edwinton, was assigned to the Post Surgeon, and there the Sabbath School met until the house was burned in November.

The meetings were then held in the Post Hospital, the adjoining log building, also belonging to Dr. Burleigh, and the children being ranged in classes on the cots in the ward. These meetings continued until interrupted by the serious illness of a soldier. It being then quite late in the season, but one more meeting was held, that being in the Telegraph Office, where the teacher then resided. The terrific snow storms of the winter having then set in, it was impossible for the children longer to attend, and the interesting little school was reluctantly disbanded to await the opening of spring.

Winter passed away, and the spring came tardily. With it came, also, brighter prospects for the snow-blockaded village. In March—Rev. Mr. Swift, of the Episcopal Church, held service in the Capitol Hotel—the first ministerial service ever held in Bismarck.

On May 11th Rev. D. C. Lyon, of the Presbyterian Church, preached in Mr. Mason's new building. After church service, the congregation was resolved into a Sabbath-school meeting, and Mrs. Slaughter was elected Superintendent of the Bismarck Sabbath-school. This post was accepted by her, with the stipulation that the school was to be independent and thoroughly unsectarian in character; that it should be strictly a Union school, embracing all denominations, all sects, and all creeds, and resting its teachings wholly on the broad ground of "Love to God, and good-will to men," should utterly ignore all doctrinal issues and sectarian differences. To this it has ever faithfully adhered. A welcome awaits all who come.

Its officers and teachers are as follows:

- Superintendent—Mrs. Linda W. Slaughter.
- Secretary—Col. C. A. Lounsbury.
- Librarian—Mr. H. M. White.
- Reading Class—Mr. John W. Fisher.
- Intermediate Class—Mr. Charles F. Hebert.
- Infant Class—Miss Aida Warfel.

As will be seen, the office of Treasurer is vacant; there being no treasure to guard, a guardian for the same has not been thought necessary.

An excellent little library comprising about two hundred volumes, all of them well bound and judiciously selected, is in possession of the school—part of it having been donated on behalf of the Third Presbyterian Sabbath-school of Philadelphia by Rev. D. C. Lyon, and the rest by Rev. H. N. Gates on behalf of the Congregational Society. A good supply of Sabbath-school papers has likewise been received from the same sources. To each of these Reverend gentlemen the school is therefore equally indebted and sincerely grateful. We also thank Mr. William Aylmer, of Bismarck, for some handsome mottoes.

There is also an efficient choir under the leadership of Mrs. M. E. Smith, and composed of members of the school, which now meets for rehearsal twice a week at the house of the Superintendent. Mr. J. P. Dunn, of Bismarck, having generously presented to the church a pair of elegant chandeliers, the choir will shortly be enabled to hold its meetings in the church.

Now, our kind friends of Bismarck, is not this school deserving your sympathy and encouragement? Have not the little children of your town—the children who last summer went to Sabbath-school in a shabby army tent without books or other attractions, and recited Scripture verses from the top of packing chests—fairly earned the right to a real Sabbath-school?

A school, where interesting books, attractive papers, and pleasing lessons shall await them, with earnest, devoted teachers, to lead their young minds from the sordid things of earth to the higher hopes of immortality!

All these we have in a measure—books, papers, and teachers. We have also a permanent and comfortable meeting-place, the new Congregational Church. But one thing we lack, and that we must have, if earnest endeavor can secure it, a good instrument of music for our excellent choir.

To the people of Bismarck we commend our school. Many hopes for the future are bound up in it. Many children's hearts are linked with it. Many prayers have consecrated it; and a few earnest laborers work for it. We feel that God is with it, and we ask for it now, but the encouragement, the presence, the support, and the sympathy of this community.

Let these not be withheld, and may God bless the little children who, in their first humble meetings in these western wilds, laid the foundation of the church, and thus became the unconscious pioneers of the cause of Christ. L. W. S.

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