

Press and Dakotian
DAILY.

YANKTON, DAKOTA,
Tuesday Evening, Dec. 23, 1875.

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Fifteen years ago, on the 20th inst., the South Carolina legislature passed the secession ordinance.

Information has been received by the director of the mint that five hundred tons of ore a day is being hoisted through the shaft of the Consolidated Virginia Mining Company.

A Bismarck telegram dated the 20th, says the citizens have organized an express line and a mail left for the Hills that morning in charge of Deputy U. S. Marshal Ben. Ash and J. C. Dodge. They expected to make the trip in five days. On the same day Edward Donahue, W. H. Stumpson and R. P. Marsh left for the gold regions, and on Saturday previous a party of four Montana miners took their departure, and on Friday a party of eleven was to leave.

Now would be a good time for some enterprising Yanktonian to enter upon a like scheme. No better method of demonstrating the shortness and directness of our Black Hills route could be inaugurated than this. Besides, when the spring rush begins it would prove a source of profit.

The bill introduced in the senate by Hitchcock for the transfer of the Indian bureau to the war department provides that on and after July 1, 1876, the secretary of war shall be invested with and shall exercise all supervisory and appellate powers now possessed by the secretary of interior in relation to all acts of the commissioner of Indian affairs; that he shall make details of officers of the army to administer the affairs of the Indian branch of the war department; that the commanding officers of military departments shall have charge of Indian affairs in their respective departments; that military officers detailed in Indian services shall be liable to trial by court martial for neglect of duty or maladministration; that officers shall not be increased in number or receive extra pay for performing said duties; that all contracts for supplies or transportation connected with the Indian service shall hereafter be made in the same manner, as far as practicable, and at the same time provided for supplies and transportation for the use of the army; that Indian traders shall be governed by the rules governing military traders; that offices of the commissioner of Indian affairs, inspectors, superintendents, agents, etc., shall be abolished and cease July 1, 1876, after which date the duties now performed by them shall be performed by army officers, and that the secretary of war shall as soon as possible after July 1, 1876, carefully enumerate all the Indians, and that all issues of rations shall be upon the basis of such enumeration. The bill was referred to the committee on Indian affairs.

The Washington Republican of the 20th contains the following brief allusion to some men who have been given prominence through the change in the political complexion of the house of representatives:

Speaker Kerr will announce the committees to-day, and thus break the suspense which has existed among politicians for two weeks past. In order, however, not to give the announcement too much of a surprise to these gentlemen, we would mention three of the chosen ones. Hon. William R. Morrison, of Waterloo, Ill., has been given the chairmanship of the ways and means committee. Mr. Morrison was born in Monroe county, Ill., September 14, 1825. He received a common school education, and afterwards was a student at McKendree college, Illinois; was reared and began life on a farm; was admitted to the bar in 1855, and since then has practiced the profession of law; was a private soldier in the Mexican war, and organized and commanded the Forty-ninth Illinois regiment in the late war; was elected clerk of the circuit court of Monroe county, in 1853, and resigned the office in 1854; was a member of the Illinois legislature from 1854 to 1860 and speaker of the house the last two years; was the nominee of the democratic party for the Thirty-ninth and Fortieth congresses; was again member of the Illinois legislature in 1870-71, and received the vote of the democratic members for speaker; and was elected to the Thirty-eighth congress, and was elected to the Forty-third congress as a democrat (receiving the votes of the liberal republicans) by a vote of 13,215, against 11,516 votes for J. B. Hay, republican.

Hon. Samuel J. Randall has been appointed chairman of the appropriation committee. His life and character are so well known by all that we will not allude to them.

The Hon. William S. Holeman has received the chairmanship of the committee on commerce.

The announcement of Mr. Morrison's appointment has been received with great surprise and consternation among the political factions in the city, and even democrats innumerable are not back-

ward in condemning the selection as an exceedingly poor one, because of the peculiar unfitness of the appointee for the grave and responsible trust.

The Washington correspondent of the Chicago Tribune relates the following incident as indicative of the programme laid down by the Democrats to be carried into effect when the Bourbons obtain full control of the Government:

Not long ago a Southern gentleman in an unguarded moment, said to a Republican Senator:

If the Democrats get into power, they are going to do four things:

First—We shall repudiate the Northern debt; we are not going to help pay for heating the ramrod that has burnt our backs.

Second—We are going to make the north pay for cotton to the amount of \$200,000,000, which was taken from the south at the close of the war.

Third—We are going to tax the north to pay for the refunding of the 3 per cent. cotton tax.

Fourth—We are going to levy a poll tax of from \$25 to \$30 on every negro in the South; and we are going to make the negroes pay this as a partial compensation to the South for emancipation. Negroes do not understand what it is to be free; they do not deserve their freedom.

Democratic politicians, north and south, are too cunning to attempt anything like the above at present. They only control one house of Congress, and are now on their good behavior, but they propose to move in that direction as fast as they can without ruining the prospects of their party. The departments, the commissions, and the files of both houses are crammed with southern claims which already aggregate many millions, the claimants are all ingrained rebels, and did their best to destroy the Government, but they are intensely "loyal" now and are ready to shout for the "old flag," uphold the constitution and take the last dollar in the treasury.

Army Orders

DEPARTMENT OF DAKOTA,
Headquarters, St. Paul, Minn.,
General Orders, No. 79.

In addition to the monthly report now required to be furnished to the Chief Quartermaster of the Department, the following will be made and forwarded immediately after the close of each month, by officers of the Quartermaster's department at the several posts and stations in this department, viz:

Statement of expenditures on account of United States Post Hospitals.—This statement must show: 1. Date and source of authority for expenditures. 2. Amount authorized. 3. Date of purchase, etc. 4. Quantity, character, and cost of material, etc. purchased. 5. Total cost. 6. Date of payment. 7. Amount of funds remaining on hand pertaining to the work authorized.

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