

LAND OFFICE BUSINESS

A GENERAL REVIEW OF THE PAST YEAR.

A Flattering Outlook for Next Season —The Largest Land District in the World—Inquisitive Land Seekers.

BOOMS AT VARIOUS POINTS.

In a review of the business of the U. S. Land Office for the past year, there are some suggestive points. The business has been greater than any previous year, and the general inquiry for public lands larger. That part of the district lying in Stutsman, ranges 67 and 68, has not been overrun with settlements, but there is hope in the farm of James Dunn and the quiet gossip of a bonanza wheat field in his immediate vicinity. At Crystal Springs there has been little development beyond the taking of a tree claim by Judge Bennett. It was rumored that a colony would apply for admission to that range. At thirteenth siding there has been a small boom. The town site of Dawson, founded by J. Dawson Thompson, of Philadelphia, was the cause of this welcome trouble that attracted a number of settlers and one purchaser, Dr. Wm. J. Calvert, of Michigan, in the town site, at the modest rate of \$35 per acre. Mr. Calvert also took a tree claim, and expects to take up a homestead in the spring. He will boom both country and town. Mr. Thompson reports a big Pennsylvania immigration to his favorite spot next year. He purchased three sections from ex-President Wright, of the North Pacific, and has that gentleman's moral influence at his back.

DAWSON.

George P. Sanford, William B. Martin and Robert J. Frost, splendid types of the intelligent Michigananders, have taken homesteads and tree claims near Dawson; also John N. Brundage and H. B. Philleo, of Wisconsin. Three of these men are newspaper men. They will be out early in the spring with their families. S. Edward Kepier and James H. Michener, of Fargo, have taken pre-emptions and tree claims north of Dawson. Sandford Hoff, of Ithaca, N. Y., has laid out a homestead and tree claim near Steele's farm. He will buy a section or two from the speculators and open up a wheat farm as a stand-off to Steele's. He is a well-to-do lumberman of Ithaca. North of Steele's, Judge Mercer of the supreme court of Pennsylvania, has a tree claim. P. W. Comeford is successfully contesting a valuable quarter near Steele's, claimed by George Watson Smith, of Chicago, but not improved. Steele's.

THIRTY-SIX BUSHELS TO THE ACRE is sufficient proof that the Missouri slope is productive. He is selling it in Minneapolis for \$1.05 per bushel. Boss wheat. Boss price. At fifteenth siding there has been a tree claim and a soldier's homestead placed. As there is a fine country north of sixteenth, there will be a boom strike at that point. The same may be said of sixteenth, where a St. Louis man, Henry H. Wernse (banker), and an Indianapolis man, A. D. Cole (lawyer), took tree claims, probably, on speculation. Frank Semple, one of the Pittsburgh syndicate who own 134 sections of North Pacific land, has started a farm northeast of seventeenth, and put his brother-in-law, Mr. Wilcox, in charge. North of him, W. H. Thurston and Wm. Pennell have taken homesteads and propose to break the sand all up next season. The townships north and south of the big slough are first-class. The townships north and south of Clarke farm are going rapidly, and the non-resident wants \$3 to \$6 an acre for his lucky possessions. The claims north and south of Bismarck have been in demand.

THE APPLE CREEK VALLEY is also a favored region. Among those who have recently taken tree claims are Dr. Henry W. Coe, of Mandan, south of his town; Alfred E. Taylor, roadmaster, near Alsop; George W. Harmon, Wm. E. Cahill, P. R. Barrett, Levi Eisenberg, Louis H. Maxfield, of St. Paul, Dr. A. T. Bigelow, John A. Stoyell, D. W. Maratta, E. A. Schiffler, Cyrus Cramer, R. B. Thurston and Geo. P. Flannery. The homesteads are running up faster than they were accustomed to, as the law now gives the parties the right to pay for them if they so elect, after six months' residence and cultivation. A man can hold or pay for his homestead, as his circumstances will permit. The homestead is the popular act and the best for both settler and country.

COLONIES.

There is every reason to believe that the St. Catharines, Canada, colony will be in Bismarck next spring. The prime movers, three prominent aldermen of that town, say they are coming, and a long train after them. They have money and can make an unusually good start. A Catholic and Scandinavian colony are expected. The latter is considered as sure as our manifest destiny. The business of the land office this month has been unprecedented, and almost as good thus far as any month in the history of the office. The signs all point to a considerable immigration. These letters are samples of the correspondence that Register Rea amuses himself with:

A PRAISE GOD REPUBLICAN.

WEST POINT, Ind., Nov. 12, 1889.—In regard to Dakota I mean business. I want some further information so as to enable me to decide as to taking a car. What are apples selling for in Bismarck? I will not have enough stink to load a car but I could take something along that would sell I would fill out with it. I can get apples here for fifty cents per bushel. I could take about 250 bushels besides my own stock. What is household furniture worth there, and goods of all kinds? Do they differ much from prices here? Are there any houses to rent in Bismarck and at what price? What is lumber worth? I will not buy anything but good land, the very best. My idea is not to buy at once, but to look around well after I get there. What are sheep worth there? If you can tell me anything else besides what I have asked you filling in. Indiana set down on the democracy this time but so did the country generally, for all of which praise God. Please answer at once and greatly oblige me as I want to move before winter sets in. Respectfully,
M. S. D.

Mr. B. will have to hurry along. Winter is almost here. A few such settlers would knock down the local democratic majority.

A GOOD ONE FROM MAHONE'S STATE.

NATURAL BRIDGE, Rockbridge county, Va., Nov. 10, 1889.—I am thinking of selling my farm here and going to Dakota. I would like to know at what price I can buy good land in Kidder or Stutsman counties. Immediately on the Northern Pacific railroad. Could I not get 160 acres under the act adjoining each other and then buy 1000 acres from non-residents? I would like to get it all together and immediately on the

railroad and get the railroad company to give me a siding to ship my wheat as soon as threshed. Can you give me the address of W. F. Steele who has a farm in Kidder county? I wish you quote me the prices of self-binders, plows, harrows and steam threshing outfits in Bismarck. I desire to get a correct account of that country. I have been thinking of going to Texas for some time but will go to Dakota if I can buy land at a reasonable price. Hoping to hear from you at your earliest convenience, I am,
Very Respectfully,
F. W. G.

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WALTER MANN, Pres't. G. H. FAIRCHILD, Cash'r
St. Paul, Minn. Bismarck, D. T.

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City Stables, No. 17 Fourth Street, Comeford & Malloy, Proprietors.

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DR. PRICE'S CREAM BAKING POWDER

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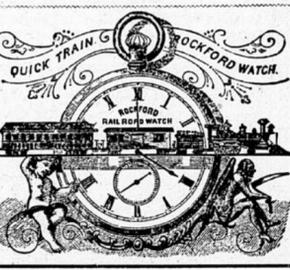
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