JAMESTOWN WEEKLY ALERT.

4. JAMESTOWN, STUTSMAN COUNTY, D. T., FRIDAY, FEB. 24, 1882 NO. 31

AMES R. WINSLOW,

Wholesale and Retail Dealer in

BER, LATH AND SHINGLES,

Doors, Blinds, Mouldings, Building Paper, &c.

ing Supplies Furnished to Contractors.

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KEEPS THE

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General Merchandise

In Stutsman county, which he will sell at the lowest cash price.

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Teas, coffees, Sugars and Syrups, Canned Goods and Woodenware, Flour, Pork and Hams,

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Drugs, Medicines, and Fancy Goods,

Paints and Oils,

School and Blank Books, stationery, Lamps and Chimneys

KLAUS' BLOCK, JAMESTOWN.

R. E. WALLACE, Pres. S. K. MCGINNIS, V. Pres. A. IRVIN, Cashier.

The First National Bank,

JAMESTOWN, DAKOTA.

DIRECTORS:

R. M. WINSLOW, - - - - - - Capitalist.
S. K. MCGINNIS - - - - - - Real Estate.
A. A. ALLEN, of Allen & Dodge, - - - Att'ys at Law.
H. T. BUSH, of Bush & Corwin's Grain Elevator.
R. E. WALLACE, - - - - - President.

YOUR BUSINESS SOLICITED.

All inquiries in regard to the country promptly answered.

Strangers should have their mail addressed to our care.

WM. C. WHITE, Notary Public. O. H. HEWIT.

WHITE & HEWIT,

Attorneys at Law,

U. S. LAND OFFICE ATTORNEYS.

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Land Office and Real Estate Business.

Money Loaned on Good Security.

Office Grand Floor, Front, Masonic Temple.

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MILLS & BUCK,

Groceries and Meats of all Kinds, Flour and Feed, Boots and Shoes

Gents' Furnishing Goods,

Crockery Stone and China Ware,

And in fact, everything usually found in a store of General Merchandise.

A. KLAUS,

Wholesale and Retail Dealer in

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Will always sell as low as the lowest, and will not be undersold.

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BRANDS: "GOLDEN NORTHWEST" AND "HOME COMFORT."

Will exchange Flour and Feed with Farmers, allowing the highest market price for wheat and sell them flour and feed at wholesale prices. Grind any kind of feed at 10 cents per bushel.

EMPIRE STORE!

4th Ave. Next Door to Masonic Hall.

L. DU BUISSON, Proprietor,

Dealer in GENERAL MERCHANDISE

Good Goods, Square Dealing and Lowest Prices

RAISE SHEEP.

The Alert is pleased to learn that several parties contemplate going into the sheep business this year in Stutsman county, one tract of land north of Jamestown having been purchased for that avowed purpose. Thus far the experience of those who have experimented in this branch of industry has been uniformly successful. Mr. Van Dusen has had a flock at the Troy farm for two or more years and finds they are profitable in a pecuniary sense, and are subject to no more diseases here than in Kansas or Texas. Mr. Adams has a flock of four hundred at the Spiritwood Farm and reports the same. A visit to his sheep barn at the present time would go far toward convincing our farmers that there is something else besides No. 1 hard to be raised on these broad prairies.

THE MOUSE RIVER COUNTRY.

The Bismarck Tribune is laboring hard to get up a boom for the Mouse river region, and deserves success. Its last suggestion is to erect canning works on the banks of the river and put up brain food for the balance of the world. This is a magnificent scheme indeed and well worthy the fertile brain of the editor of that enterprising journal. But when the Tribune endeavors to make people think that Bismarck is the present and future outfitting point for that country it has undertaken a large job, and one in which it can have no ultimate hope of success. Jamestown is now and ever will be the point from which parties destined to the valley of the Mouse must go. A railroad is already in course of construction from here; it is one hundred miles nearer the market from which all products of that country must go to and supplies come from, and these are facts which are so well known as to need no explanation from the Alert. The Mouse river country is undoubtedly rich in minerals, timber, grass and a splendid soil, and in a short time will be developed by hardy pioneers. Already parties in Jamestown are preparing to go there in the spring, and many more will come from the states for the same purpose, and in order to do so will stop one hundred miles east of Bismarck, at Jamestown, to get their outfits.

DANGERS OF SENTIMENT.

The mawkish sentimentality which causes many refined ladies to beautify with fragrant flowers the cells of condemned murderers, and to shower upon the foul inmates tender words of sympathy, has received a check which all lovers of even-handed justice hope may prove permanent. For some time past, Miss Mary Willis, an estimable young lady has been a regular Sunday visitor to the San Francisco jail, going in the interest of the Fruit and Flower Mission, seeking to reform the hardened criminals. Under the mistaken idea of doing good she visited the jail regularly to fawn upon and pet the abandoned inmates confined therein. During her visits she met the red handed wife murderer, Gottung, learned his story and became interested in the wretch to such an extent that she learned to love him, took him flowers and fruits, carried his infant child born to him by the poor woman he so atrociously murdered into the gloominess of the jail, that the father might fondle it, and in hundreds of ways made the life of the felon bearable. It is needless to say that Gottung encouraged the misguided woman's passion. The result was the marriage of the couple on the 4th inst., the ceremony having been performed in the jail.

It would seem impossible to find anyone mean enough to perform a ceremony whereby a poor infatuated girl should be tied to a convicted murderer just sentenced to 10 years imprisonment, yet such a person was found and the ceremony performed. The marriage, it is hoped, is void under a section of California's Penal Code, but whether void or binding it is sad enough to arouse the attention of many earnest but misguided people who sympathize with hardened criminals to such an extent as to almost lionize them.

The unfortunate should receive our sympathy, but cold blooded murderers are not fit associates for virtuous women. Our criminals should be made to feel the atrocity of their crimes, and this can never be done by petting them as seems to be the fashion in many of our large cities. If Miss Willis' fate will cause a halt in our sickening sentimentality towards criminals, her humiliation will not have been in vain.

ADMISSION OF DAKOTA.

The sub-committee on territories has unanimously agreed upon a bill to provide for the admission as a state, with the name Dakota, of all that part of Dakota south of the forty-sixth parallel. The bill provides that the constitutional convention shall be composed of 120 members; that the constitution so made shall be republican in form and guarantee civil and political rights to all except Indians not taxed; that perfect toleration of religious sentiment and freedom of religious worship shall be secured; that all right and title to unappropriated public lands shall be disclaimed; that lands of non-residents shall not be taxed higher than those of residents and that the bonded debt incurred to the Territory of Dakota for building of a penitentiary and insane asylum shall be assumed and paid by the State of Dakota. The sixteenth and thirty-sixth sections of public land in every township are granted to the state for the support of common schools. Fifty sections are given for capital buildings and ninety sections for the endowment of an agricultural college. The proceeds of the sale of salt springs go to the common schools as likewise five per cent. of the net proceeds of the sale of public lands. The minimum price for the sale of school lands has been fixed at five dollars per acre. Provisions are also made for the formation of new United States judicial districts. Finally the bill provides that all that portion of the territory lying north of the 46th parallel shall be formed into a new territory. The bill has been reported to the house and action on it is expected soon. Great care has been taken in drawing the bill and many confidently look for its passage. While this is among the uncertainties all are hopeful that the territory will be divided.

The village ordinance relating to peddling receives a pretty severe shaking up at the hands of the Fargo Republican, and the Alert regrets to state that it cannot conscientiously defend it in this instance. The sentiment of a majority of our people was and is to-day against the imposing of the fine in question. There is a means of redress open to the gentleman who was fined, and if he has been wronged, and in the opinion of many he has, he should see to it that he is righted.

Minneapolis Journal: Perhaps it would be well for the Dakota brethren to drop all effort to secure admission at this session of congress, and concentrate their efforts upon the division of the territory. Admission can very well wait, but division cannot. North Dakota needs a separate territorial organization immediately, in order to enable her to proceed comfortably upon her grand destiny.

Texas invites the Hebrews exiles from Russia to settle within her borders and as an inducement offers part of her public domain.

Gov. Ordway is still in Washington, attacking the Pettigrew citadel with all his vigor. He is paid by the government to act as governor of Dakota, but he seems to pay but little attention to Dakota, save in the disposition of the few federal offices that fall to Dakota's lot. In the meantime Secretary Hand is attending to the governor's duties at home, and is attending to them well.—Parker Era.

When Secretary Hand was defeated in his efforts to be promoted to the position of governor, he doubtless felt a keen sense of disappointment. But this must in a large measure be allayed by this time, as he has occupied the gubernatorial chair as acting governor almost continually since his failure. It would not be out of place for him to be given the salary of governor in addition to that of secretary for the time in which he has performed double duty.—Press and Dakotian.

On Friday, a new cattle car built in Cincinati arrived in St. Paul for the Northern Pacific railroad company, and was loaded for its trial trip with domestic cattle for Fargo butchers. This car is neatly divided into stalls and fitted with apparatus for feeding and watering cattle en route, and said to be a great improvement over anything ever before put upon wheels for the purpose. The car will probably arrive here some time to-day, and after being unloaded will be sent to Miles City, where Meyers Bros. will load it with twenty head of selected Montana cattle.

Territorial Tattle.

Salem calls for a creamery.

Chamberlain is trying on the measles.

Railroad excitement is running high at Crystal.

Excavations are being made for the Grand Forks roller mills.

Steps are being taken to organize a Masonic lodge at Grafton.

Six new saloons were licensed in Grand Forks county yesterday.

Parker has a dramatic club. The "Ticket of Leave Man" is in rehearsal.

The Times says Sioux Falls is certainly becoming famous as a gambling rendezvous.

John Cook and Skinny Frost, light weight pugilists from Grand Forks, fought yesterday, for $200 a side. Frost lost one of his eyes and likewise the victory.

Mrs. J. E. Wildom, who absconded from Emerson with J. McLaine and $2,000 of her husband's wealth, was traced to Minneapolis, where the trail was lost.

A son of Nels Nelson, of Salem, loaded an old army musket for practice on wolves. Last Sunday Mr. Nelson fired the gun and it burst at the breech, shattering a bone of the forearm, disjointing both bones of the thumb, and tearing out the cords.

The Huron Times says: "Not a train comes that does not carry a dozen or more of honest, intelligent men, from many different states, seeking homes among us. The growth and settlement of Beadle county has already surpassed the expectations of the most sanguine, but the magnitude of the great influx of immigration that will take place as soon as spring opens up can only be measured by imagination.

Yankton Press, 10: "A sample of the Charles Mix county fuel has been sent to us and is on exhibition at the Press and Dakotian business office. It has been tested in our office stove and we find that it burns readily and produces as much heat as soft coal. It is a shale formation and appears to be saturated with oil, which gives it combustible qualities. The formation is entirely different from coal, and should it prove to be valuable as fuel some other name than coal must be given it."

Report reaches the Niobrara News that a large vein of coal has been found a short distance above Fort Randall and that workmen are endeavoring to ascertain its thickness. According to the latest reports received they had penetrated the vein to a depth of thirty-five feet and were still at work with no signs of reaching the bottom. The coal resembles black chalk-rock, and makes a good fire. The inhabitants of that section have apparently gone crazy over the find, and have left everything and taken their picks and spades and went to mining.

Bound Over.

Jake Bornholdt was arrested Wednesday at the complaint of his wife, on a charge of assault and battery. The case was tried before Judge Watson, and resulted the defendent being bound over in the sum of $150, to the next term of court. Nickeus for the complainant.

The emperor of Germany took part in the march round at the Berlin Opera house a fortnight ago.

CAPITAL CITY.

A Plain Statement of Facts Connected With Jamestown.

An Eastern Town Backed Up by Western Enterprise.

That Jamestown is destined to become a large city in the near future, is admitted by all acquainted with her history. Even her rivals, when forced to speak, concede this. They no longer speak sneeringly of her growth or prospects; indeed many of them have quietly invested in her town lots, knowing full well that throughout the length and breadth of Dakota there is no town on a more solid basis or with brighter prospects for the future. The "little hamlet on the James" has grown into a busy bustling town that is taking giant strides towards wealth and population—a town settled by thrifty, cultured people from the best communities in the East—a town within whose borders are to be found broad avenues lined with commodious business houses and tasty dwellings, two beautiful churches, a graded school, one private and two national banks, a daily morning newspaper containing news from all parts of the world, one monthly and two weekly papers, four large hotels, three public halls including a first class opera house, a variety of manufacturing interests among which are a mammoth flour mill, extensive brewery and furniture factory, railroad shops, elevators, large lumber yards, prosperous merchants and professional men and most of the elements that go to make a city of the first class. Its prosperity is such that brick buildings are taking the place of wooden structures which mark the earlier years of a village. Its limits have so expanded and its population so increased that capitaltsts are moving to build a streetrailroad. Her school population has grown to such dimensions that the five thousand dollar school house no longer accommodates its patrons. Her growth has been steady from the start—at first slow, at present fairly leaping. Her advance is not checked by the seasons. Even the cold of winter cannot keep her builders idle and on every street can be heard the hammering of carpenters even while the mercury is coquetting with zero. Visitors speak with admiration of her improvements, and well they may, for in no other town in the northwest can the like be seen.

Her population is constantly increasing. When last summer the school board inaugurated a graded school, no one dreamed of a greater enrollment than one hundred during the school year but lo, ere Christmas rolled around the names of two hundred pupils appeared on the roll and the number bids fair to exceed three hundred before the summer vacation.

But why this rush of people to Jamestown? The reason is not alone her matchless location which nature evidently intended for a large city—a broad basin surrounded by grand Bluffs and washed by a timber fringed river; nor the fertile fields of the golden James River valley—fields that need only to be tickled with a hoe to produce an abundant harvest, nor in the pure crystal water to be found all around us, nor is it the health-giving atmosphere which we all breathe—though these alone are sufficient to insure the permanency of a city numbering its inhabitants by the thousands; but beyond us to the northwest is a region at present but little known, but one undoubtedly rich in timber, grass and above all, coal—coal, the one thing needed to give our territory a boom compared to which the growth of other new countries would sink into insignificance. Take a map, examine the location of the Mouse river region and it is as clear as noonday sun that Jamestown is naturally the entrance gate to the famous Eldorado. But the Northern Pacific Railroad company is constructing a branch road from this point to that country—a railroad not on paper or in the fertile minds of ambitious neighbors, but one actually under construction. This road, the first in the field, will make a permanent channel of commerce to the northwest which will pour untold wealth into the coffers of our merchants and manufacturers.

In view of such resources it is no wonder that contracts are let for many costly buildings; no wonder that railroad shops employing 400 men, and a thirty thousand dollar court house will be erected the coming spring; no wonder our merchants are about to establish wholesale houses. The confidence in Jamestown's future is not confined to her citizens who invest their capital freely within her limits, but is shared by many shrewd men in all parts of our country—men whose names appear in the list of owners of Jamestown real estate. But if any doubting person desires convincing proof of a perfect confidence in our future prosperity on the part of capitalists, he need only examine our banking institutions. Capital is proverbially timid and selfish, yet here, in a town offering splendid speculations in real estate that is steadily increasing in value, are found keen, far-seeing, monied men who have established banks with a working capital of $150,000. And for what purpose? In the hope of realizing immediately on their investments? Everyone knows that our volume of business would afford only a moderate profit in the above banking capital at the start. They were willing to wait for the full realization of their hopes, feeling satisfied that in a short time a bonanza awaited those banks first in the field. So far their expectations have been more than realized in a constantly increasing business.

Spring will soon be here, and with it will come many people from all parts of our country. Every mail brings orders to our land agents, to secure houses for immigrants. There are no vacant buildings in our town. Spring will open with a still greater demand for house room. The building improvements of last summer, amounting to over $154,000, will be tripled the coming season and before snow flies next winter over 3,000 people will have their residence among us. To-day Jamestown is attracting more attention than any town in Dakota. Her resources need only to become known to attract within her limits during the next five years a prosperous population of 25,000 people.

Our School Accommodations.

The annual school meeting occurs on the first Tuesday in April and as there are important subjects to be considered it may be well to begin to agitate them and get the views of the people of this district before that date. The present school accommodations will be inadequate to meet the demands of the district at the next school term and some additional school room must be provided for. And the question as to how this shall be done is one of the most important to come before that meeting. Many desire that the present building should be so enlarged as to meet the growing demands of the district, while the people on the north side of the track want another school house put up there. The school tax last year was high, much higher than the necessities of the district called for and leaves a balance to be applied to the expenses of this year of between $3,000 and $4,000. This high tax was voted at the regular April meeting and after it had been done many saw that a mistake had been made and though the school board called several meetings in order to rescind the vote enough voters could not be got out to do so, and it is a noticeable fact that those who would not turn out to repeal this tax were among the loud kickers at the high tax this year. One-half the school tax would have sufficed and have made the burden much lighter and if at this year's meeting a high tax was necessary it could have been voted and those who are coming here to settle in the spring to enjoy its benefits would have had to help pay the burden. But the tax assessed is paid, there is a surplus in the treasury, more school room is necessary, and how this can best be done to suit present and prospective needs is the question to be solved, and the columns of the Alert are open to suggestions from interested parties.

ÆSOP'S FABLES.

(NEW VERSION.)

THE EAGLE AND THE ASS.

The animals once sent the Eagle to represent them at the court of Olympian Jove, largely because the bird was known to be at enmity with the Ass whom the king of Gods had set to rule over them. The Eagle had no sooner winged his swift flight to Mount Olympus, than the Ass came limping there too; having abandoned his seat of government in consequence, as he declared, of a sore on his off hind leg, which required the personal attention of Esculapius himself. Nevertheless, he thought himself well enough heeled for current uses, for, as soon as he met his enemy, he began to kick at him viciously, braying loudly the while. But the eagle flew too high for his antaganist and, frequently swooping down upon him, buried his sharp talons in the terminal region of the Asses vertebrae. This caused the astute quadruped to vertabrae all the louder.

Thus the quarrel proceeded to the great diversion of the third rate gods, and the goddesses who hang around the Olympian palace until at last; Jupiter ordered the combatants before him, to give an account of the things by which they were making a holy circus in the abode of the immortals. First, the Ass was asked wherefore the animals so strongly objected to his reign over them. He replied that it was because they could not appreciate his many virtues and excellences; being lions, tigers, wolves, snakes, scorpions and such like predatory and murderous creatures, totally unfit for any but his most absolute government.

The Eagle contradicted the Ass and asserted that the animals were by a vast majority, well intentioned and peaceable quadrupeds, who asked nothing more than a ruler after their kind, who could understand their needs and who would govern them with kindness and fidelity.

Jupiter, who disliked contention, called upon Minerva to decide the controversy, who said: "I presume that what the Ass says has much of truth in it. The animals over whom he reigns are doubtless very like animals elsewhere; beasts of burden and beasts of prey, all forming one community; but in the latest census report manufactured by one of these very animals, and which places their number at 240,000. I cannot find that there are any asses like himself. My judgement is that the Eagle attend in future solely to the business of his office, and that the Ass go home and hire a hall in which to bray."

MORAL.

Rulers must have something in common with their people, if they expect to be comfortable.—Fargo Bee.

McKean on Running a Newspaper.

Mr. McKean of the Sanborn Enterprise gives the following advice to his subscribers in his last issue:

Editing a paper is like carrying an umbrella on a windy day. Everybody thinks he could manage it better than the one who has hold of the handle, is the way some martyr puts it. Poor fellow, he has undoubtedly been dead these many years. It is invariably the one who pays the least towards supporting the newspaper who is most prolific of suggestions. One man wants us to say more about the country and another more about the town. One party wants a story each week and another thinks the heading of our paper too plain. Dash thinks something sensational, no matter whether it is true or not, in our paper each week would increase our circulation wonderfully, while Blank thinks the people are suffering for a couple of columns of religious news. We cannot print a New York Herald or a Chicago Times with the material we have on hand. We endeavor to give a variety of matter and of a character that all classes of readers will find something to interest them. It costs on an average about $5,000 a day to pay the running expenses of the Sun, the smallest of the great New York dailies, so you see it must cost something to publish even a country weekly. We are always ready to gain information and like to be talked to in a good sensible way by persons whose education and experience have been such as to make their advice worth heeding. If you must tell us what to do, first pay your subscription and then we will listen to and follow your advice—if we have a mind to.

Disciples of Andrew Jackson.

Among the delegates from North Dakota in Washington were three Democrats, Col. Wm. Thompson of Bismarck, Anton Klaus of Jamestown, and W. B. McConnell of Fargo, and they were among the most effective workers on the delegation. Col. Thompson was a member of congress thirty-four years ago, and was entitled to admission to the floor. this enabled him to meet and converse with many of the members who could not have been reached in any other manner. His ripe experience and extensive acquaintance, and ready tongue and pen, was also of great service. Anton Klaus was present at every meeting of the delegation. He was ready, quiet, quick and sensible, and gained for our cause much favor. Among the democrats in congress, W. B. McConnell had an extensive acquaintance, particularly among Indiana and Pennsylvania members. He met them at their homes and appealed to them as old friends, and convinced them of the justice of our cause, through his work and that of Frank Mead, whose father was a bosom companion of Mr. Holman of Indiana. Even that chronic objector was inclined to think favorably of the project for division. Mr. McConnell was joined by Capt. W. W. McClellan, an old schoolmate of his and formerly a democratic member of congress from Pennsylvania, who worked with him as earnestly as any member of our delegation. Capt. McClellan was called home, but will return in a few days and continue his efforts in our behalf. Capt. McClellan is a friend of Capt. J. W. Raymond, of this city, and of Messrs. Wallace and McGinnis of Jamestown.—Bismarck Tribune.

The town of Pierre has a hook and ladder truck, and a company to man it. Pierre has been in possession of both the truck and the company for some time; so long in fact that the foreman of the company concluded to see how many of the b'hoys could find the ma-chine. Accordingly, last week he sounded a false alarm and in about one hour, the truck was found and brought out. The ladders were yanked off, but before they were adjusted and hoisted the bucket brigade had dug a well and began to throw water on the truck boys. Wonder how many fire companies in North Dakota are under better discipline than the Pierre organization.

Valley City Times: The land office at Fargo is talked of being moved to Valley City. This will make the Jimtownians howl if it should be removed.

WELCOME HOME!

Is the Greeting Every one Gives the Hon Anton Klaus

Upon His Return Home from His Trip to Washington.

Anton Klaus, Esq., returned to Jamestown yesterday after an an extended absence, and thinking an interview with him might result in giving our readers some light on the situation, especially in a political sense, we sent our reporter to interview him.

Reporter—As you have spent a large part of your time in Washington, the readers of the Alert would like to hear what you have to say concerning the prospects both politically and otherwise during the present year. When did you leave Washington?

Mr. Klaus—A week ago last Tuesday.

R—What prospect was there for a division of the territory?

Mr. K—It looked favorable, and there is no doubt but the bill introduced for that purpose will pass.

R—Do you think the south half will be admitted as a state during the present session?

Mr. K—I think it will; but it is not as sure as the division bill. My opinion is that both will pass, but the admission bill will receive strong opposition.

R—In regard to the land office at Jamestown—do you think we will get one.

Mr. K—Everything looks favorable. The land commissioner (Mr. McFarland) looks at it in a different light since conversing with the delegation and having new information furnished him. They will establish a new office at Jamestown, instead of removing the one at Fargo further west.

R—Which bill do you think will be adopted, the one introduced by Mr. Pettigrew, or the one petitioned for by the citizens of this county?

Mr. K—The bill petitioned for by our citizens is the one introduced by Mr. McMillan, and I think it will pass without much difficulty. The two south of us, in Mr. Pettigrew's bill will also be established, I think. Ours will be a separate bill, and not included in Pettigrew's. This gives us a much larger district.

R—In your travels through the east did you hear much about Dakota?

Mr. K—Yes, sir; everybody is alive on the Dakota question, and my opinion is that the population of Jamestown and Stutsman county will double the present year.

R—Have you conversed with capitalists?

Mr. K—Yes; with capitalists and farmers, and I find a deep interest manifested in our country.

R—Are there many capitalists talking about coming out here to invest:

Mr. K—Yes; and many senators and representatives will visit us at the close of this session.

R—Do you think Jamestown will be the capital?

Mr. K—Yes, sir; I believe Jamestown stands an equal (if not better) show than any place on the line of the road.

R—What influence on business will the establishment of a land office at Jamestown have?

Mr. K—My opinion is that a land office will be of more benefit than the capital itself.

R—Did you converse with any of the principal railroad officials?

To this question he stated that he had several conversations with prominent officials, but would not like to name them, as he was not authorized to. He would say, however, they emphatically declared their purpose was to build to Jamestown. He also stated that he had made arrangements for a brick machine, and thought we would have all the brick we could use the coming summer.

As he was tired, after his long trip, we bade him good night, thanking him for his patience. We feel that our citizens fully appreciate his services at Washington which were given at the expense of a rest he had anticipated this winter.

Sheets and Pillow Cases.

The sheet and pillow case ball came off last night according to programme and was a success as far as fun and dancing were concerned, but as much could not be said financially. Only a portion of the dancers appeared in the ghostly costume, but they made fun for themselves and others. The costumes were taken off at 10:30 and from then until supper the dances came in quick order. Supper was served at the Northwestern house, and it was equal to any ever gotten up in Jamestown, and was creditable alike to the excellent house and proprietress. After supper the programme was carried out and dancing was continued into the small hours of the morning. The music was splendid. The Turnverein Society gave a good party, and the Alert regrets that the dancing people of Jamestown refused to attend in greater numbers. Mr. Dunne appeared in costume at 10 o'clock, and created sport until supper time, and no one was able to recognize him. It is safe to say that another sheet and pillow case party will be given here soon.

Our Death Rate.

Undertaker Steinbach informs the Alert that the number of deaths in Stutsman county for the year 1881 was eighteen. Of this number two or three were paupers who came here from the west broken down in health and died and were buried at the expense of the county; one was drowned, and of the remainder doubtless some came here with constitutions so broken that they must have died in a short time whether they came to Stutsman county or remained away. The mortality was greater among the new comers than among the older settlers. So that taking into consideration the number of deaths of persons who really belonged here, it would not be over one half of one per cent. This fact alone should convince all that this is a healthy country.

New Faces.

Our exchanges all refer particularly to the heavy immigration of the present. It is very noticable at this point, and we are surprised to see among the new comers so many from Michigan, Wisconsin and other northwestern states. It must be that the recent fine weather started them earlier than usual. Business is lively too and all seem to soon find enough to occupy their time. We expect that this condition will continue, for there is much to be done this season, and the only question is how shall be supplied the heavy demand that must soon be made for mechanics by our masons and builders.

A Change in Pastors.

Rev. Father Galvin took his departure from Jamestown on Saturday and his place has been supplied by Rev. Father F. Flanagan of Yankton, Father Galvin came here in September last and the beginning of his pastorate was brilliant and satisfactory to his parish, but his conduct of late had not been in accordance with his calling and hence the change. He is an educated man and able to speak a half dozen languages, and it is to be regretted that a change was necessary.

Married.

DECKER—HUNTER.—At the residence of the groom, Sunday, February 19, by Rev. W. L. Demorest, Mr. Edward W. Decker to Miss Mattie Hunter.

The Alert extends congratulations as does everyone who is acquainted with Mr. and Mrs. Decker.

MOUSE RIVER BOOMERS.

An Exploring Party to Leave the Hub About April 15st.

Arrangements are being perfected by L. Lyon, Sheriff McKechnie, John P. Vennum, Hanscomb and others, for a grand exploring party to the Mouse River. It is proposed to leave Jamestown about April 15th with a complete outfit. The Alert understands that any who may desire to visit the great Mouse River Valley are invited to send in their names by April 1st. The Mouse River country is unquestionably one of the richest in North Dakota, and is to-day attracting the attention of hundreds who are desirous of securing homes in the golden Northwest. Jamestown is by no means jealous of the probable success of this newly discovered region, but on the contrary is desirous of seeing it develop and grow rich and powerful. With this great country thickly settled, Jamestown will find itself greatly benefitted in a commercial point of veiw from the very fact that it furnishes the only railroad leading to it, and all who visit the country either as explorers or settlers must first come to Jamestown.

The Poor Man in Dakota.

As an illustration of what a poor but energetic man of family can accomplish in the vicinity of Jamestown, we give the following which is vouched for by a reliable citizen of Stutsman county:

Last spring, a man with his wife and two children arrived in our town, and after getting settled in a small house had just fifteen cents with which to buy food. The entire family found immediate employment, the father as a common laborer, the mother as a seamstress and the children herding cattle. By dint of hard work and rigid economy they accumulated sufficient money to secure a claim within a few miles of town. They were blessed with health and found constant work at fair wages. To-day they are the happy owners of a desirable house and lot, besides possessing a claim for which they have refused $1,000 cash. Their entire indebtedness amounts to $70, which they expect to remove within a few weeks.

The above is a fair sample of what many poor families have accomplished and what any family composed of willing workers may hope to realize by settling among us. Unfortunately a feeling of pride deters man from giving publicity to his days of poverty and hard toil, and it is owing to this fact that only now and then a case like the above comes to light—not because there are but few cases like it, but because our settlers are at present silent concerning their hard battles for bread and butter. By and by, when affluence shall have become the portion of our citizens and the swift passing years shall have proclaimed them pioneers of Dakota, they will freely relate their early struggles and we will then hear many tales similar to the above. There can be no doubt but that in this community of busy people the poor man, who is able and willing to work, can find steady employment at wages which, with economy and the blessing of good health, will enable him to secure 160 acres of as fertile fields as the sun ever shone upon, and which will surely afford him a competency in his old age. The immigrant with capital always has an advantage over his penniless companions, but in the race for fortune he is often outstripped by those whose only start in life is health, muscle and energy. Nowhere in the United States is labor as sure of its reward as in Dakota.

Who is Pa?

The gossips of Jamestown have been excited the past few days over a bit of news which the Alert deems best should now be published. An unmarried female well known here has given birth to a child, and up to the present writing refuses to divulge who the father is. The woman was working northwest of town, but some dissatisfaction having arisen, she left and walked into town last Friday through the cold and snow and soon after arriving went to a house on the north side and the child was born. It is said that she will ask aid from the county, but none can be given until she names the father of the infant. A strong suspicion rests upon a certain party, and it is quite likely that he is the guilty one. The woman was employed last summer on a farm south of town.

The Land Office Bill.

Mr. Klaus desires to have it understood in his interview published yesterday morning that the bills mentioned as being introduced by Senator McMillan and Delegate Pettigrew are identical and were both prepared by the latter gentleman. Mr. Klaus also allows the Alert to publish the following letter which he has received from Mr. Pettigrew since his return:

WASHINGTON, D. C., Feb. 17, 1882.

Anton Klaus—My Dear Sir: I have introduced a separate bill for a new land district with the office at Jamestown. I will do all in my power to secure the passage. Will send you copy of bill as soon as it is printed. Write me whenever any public question comes up. Your friend,

R. F. PETTIGREW.

The Black Hills.

Confidence gamesters are operating in the Hills, and the victims are numerous.

The Lida mine, near Lead, assays about $50. It is pronounced valuable property.

A stamp at the Homestake mine fell on a workman named Pat Wallace and broke his leg.

On the 5th and 6th County Treasurer Baird, of Lawrence county, collected $56,000 in taxes.

Cattle thieves are doing a thriving business near Rapid. They steal and kill cattle and sell them to butchers. Some arrests have been made.

Deadwood Pioneer: About two o'clock yesterday afternoon, a wagon having on 3,500 pounds of powder started from one of the magazines between here and Central. By some means the wagon tongue broke. The horses were unhitched, the wagon blocked up and the teamster went after repairs. While he was gone the blocking gave way and the wagon, with its fearful load, went over the rocks to the creek below. In the descent the kegs of powder rolled out and were broken open, the contents being spilled all along down the hillside. If an explosion had occurred the concussion would in all probability have exploded the magazine, and about that time the people of Deadwood and Central would have been looking around to see where that earthquake lit.

A Jamestown Directory.

Steps are being taken by Mr. McClure assisted by Mr. Judkins to publish a directory of Jamestown. It will take some time to make the necessary arrangements and it is not desired to issue the work for five or six weeks, as at the expiration of that time many new names and business firms will be represented in town. It is proposed to make the work complete in all details and to have all the advantages of the town represented in such a manner as to reflect credit upon the town and the publishers.