DAKOTA DEMOCRATS.

The Meeting of Democrats at Aberdeen a Great Success and Everthing Harmonious.

Arrangements Made For a Thorough Party Organization Throughout the Territory.

Encampment ot the Militia at Fargo --The City Overflowing--The Program.

Proceedings of the Sioux Falls Convention--A Set-Back to the Prohibitionists.

The Aberdeen Convention.

Special to the Globe.

ABERDEEN, Dak., Sept. 22.—The Democrats of Dakota, who are assembled in this city to-day, were unparalleled in number by like gatherings heretofore known to the territory, and the apparent desire for harmonious action by all factions was persistently maintained from first to last. Though there may have been hidden motives in the origin of the call which brought about this meeting, the gathering and assembly was so harmoniously consummated that were there any such it was not allowed even by the promulgators themselves to crop out, and Dakota Democracy was a unit. Hon. Bartlett Tripp was called to the chair as temporary and afterwards made permanent chairman of the meeting. During the sessions and in the lobbies some antagonizing spirits would occasionally crop out for personal or factional interests, but all to no purpose. The expressions of good-will and the assurance of absence of any thought antagonistic to the territorial central committee were in so large a majority, that though a few motions were made by some inadvertant ones, they were quickly voted down or tabled. No action was taken recommending, indorsing or censuring any man, faction or measure, except the strongest and best indorsement of the national administration. The adjournment of the meeting after the day's session, left the party in the strongest possible attitude for organization, growth and prosperity. The members of the territorial central committee who were present had an informal meeting, and clearly ascertained the fact that as members of the committee they were a unit, and that the measures of co-operation they have arranged to bring about will greatly increase and build up the strength and largely add to the numbers of their party, and secure the longed for desire of seeing Dakota in a few short weeks a Democratic state.

THE ROUTINE REPORT.

Special to the Globe.

ABERDEEN, Dak., Sept. 22.—The convention of Democrats was called to order at 10 a. m. by L. G. Johnson, chairman of the Brown county Democratic committee, who read the call. George Walsh, of Spink county, and Bartlett Tripp, of Yankton, were nominated for chairman, the latter being elected. George Henry, of Brookings, and W. S. Montgomery, of Brown, were elected secretaries. The temporary organization was afterward made permanent. An enrollment of delegates showed 108 present from thirty-eight counties in different parts of the territory. Maj. Barret, of Aberdeen, delivered an address of welcome in behalf of the Democrats of Aberdeen. The following committee on resolutions was appointed: Frost of Beadle, Bowers of Brown, Boynton of Lincoln, McCormack of Grand Forks, Wynn of Minnehaha, Lewis of Grant, Inman of Clay, Zeibach of Bonhamme, Walsh of Spink, Redick of Cass, Keith of Brookings. On motion of Engle of Brown, the following committee was appointed to report a plan of organization of the counties in the territory: Engle of Brown, Hughes of Hughes, Pierce of Codington, Dunn of Sanborn, Rowby of Davidson. Some apprehension was manifested among the delegates that an effort was being made to infringe upon the territorial committee, of which D. M. Inman is chairman, but this fear was soon dispelled upon assurances that no such thing was intended. The convention then adjourned until 2 o'clock. Upon reassembling the committee on resolutions submitted a somewhat lengthy report, which was taken up and considered by sections. The first and second sections of the report were unanimously adopted, as follows:

Resolved, That we most heartily indorse the course of the present administration touching territorial and national affairs; and,

Resolved, That we favor and fully indorse the action taken by our national convention and followed by President Cleveland, with reference to selecting federal officers from actual residents of the territory, and earnestly implore the president to ignore carpet-bagism and enforce the Democratic resolution.

The committee reported a resolution tendering the thanks of the convention to the territorial and national committeemen for their valuable services in behalf of the party. This brought out strong objections from Miller of Lincoln, Wampler of Kingsberry, Dean of Beadle, and others, who denounced the action of the territorial committeeman, M. H. Day. After considerable discussion, during which the debate became somewhat animated, the resolutian was laid upon the table. The resolutions which favored the opening of the Sioux reservation, a tariff for revenue only, and sanctioning the action of the president in ordering cattlemen from public lands, were also laid upon the table on motion of Wright of Sioux Falls. The committee on organization of counties submitted the following report:

Resolved, That it is the sense of this convention that in each county of the territory not having a Democratic organization, the following plan be recommended: That each county committee consists of one member from each voting precinct, and one at large, who shall be chairman; that this committee select an executive committee of three from among their number, and report the name and postoffice address of each member to the chairmen of the territorial and legislative committees; that the chairman of the territorial committee be requested to ascertain the names of prominent and active Democrats in each county having no Democratic organization, and request them to at once call a convention of Democrats in each of said counties and proceed to organize according to the foregoing resolution; that each chairman of every county committee that has been organized, or may hereafter be organized, be requested to report to the chairman of the territorial and legislative committees the organization of his county committee, with their postoffice address.

After a ringing speech from Chairman Tripp, the convention adjourned sine die. This evening the Democrats and citizens were addressed by Bartlett Tripp and other leading Democrats. Great enthusiasm prevails.

Sioux Falls.

Special to the Globe.

SIOUX FALLS, Dak., Sept. 22.—A most interesting session was held to-day, opened by Rev. Mr. Jamieson of the M. E. church. After hearing the journal of yesterday read, a letter from J. A. Pickler, who championed the woman suffrage cause in the legislature last winter and has been here in the interest of the same principle, addressed to Judge Moody, urging the judge to oppose the submission of a woman-suffrage clause with the constitution, was read and greeted with applause by the convention. He says he had heard since leaving Sioux Falls that such a measure was unpopular with many and might result in the defeat of the constitution. Even if the constitution were adopted the suffrage clause might retard admission. This seems now like a fatal stab to the suffrage extension scheme. The convention occupied all the morning session and till 3 o'clock this afternoon with the report of the committee on revenue and finance. Much discussion ensued in the manner of assessing railroad property, it being finally left for the local assessors to do. Considerable warmth was manifested on the question of exempting church property, President Edgerton taking the floor to say a word for the Master's cause. The section passed as follows:

Sec. 7—The legislative shall, by general law, exempt from taxation property used exclusively for agricultural and horticultural societies, for schools, religious, cemetery and charitable purposes, and personal property to any amount not exceeding in value $200 for each individual liable to taxation.

The section exempting land from taxation to encourage timber culture was stricken out. Brookings amended the report so as to prohibit the legislature from levying a tax of more than two mills on the dollar of the assessed valuation. In defense of his position, he said the assessed valuation for 1885 was $106,000,000. The levy of three mills made by the legislature amounts to $318,000. The total appropriation of the last legislature for 1885-6 was $650,000; amount paid by Treasurer McVey before turning his books over to his successor, $68,000; cash in the treasury at the time of the transfer, $228,000; amount provided to be paid by bonds, $175,000; deferred lot of 1884, estimated, $300,000; tax due from coueties as per auditors' reports, $589,000; tax to be paid back by the counties of South Dakota, $20,000; amount received from the government for taking the census, $36000. This gives the treasury a total of $926,000, from which there is $276,000 left, after deducting the total appropriation. Is to this we add $60,000, the estimated railroad tax for 1885, and $75,000 for 1886, we have left, after paying everything, a total of $411,000 without any levy for this year and next. The amendment was unanimously adopted. The report of the committee on legislative and senatorial appointments was adopted. The report of the committee on education and school lands was then taken up. One section, as adopted, provides that school lands shall be sold at not less than $10 per acre, one-fourth to be paid down and the balauce within fifteen years at a rate of interest not less than 4 per cent. The report is now under consideration at the night session. At the night session reports of the committees on salaries of public officers, state, county, and municipal indebtedness, municipal corporations, and mines and mining, were considered and adopted. The governor and supreme judges are to be paid $2,500 per year; circuit judges, $2,000; state auditor, treasurer, secretary, superintendent of public instruction and commissioner of public lands, $1,800; attorney general, $1,000. No perquisiets are allowed.

The Fargo Encampment.

Special to the Globe.

FARGO, Dak. Sept. 22.—This was the first day in camp, and a pleasanter one for the occasion could not have been desired. Only a portion of the soldiers spent the night in camp, many preferring to stay in town until required for duty. Although they thronged the streets and public places last night, there were no instances of excessive hilarity. It is remarked that the men in uniform reflect high credit upon themselves and their companies, both when on duty and when taking in the town. They are a fine body of men as a whole. At 10 a. m. to-day there reported for duty nineteen companies, and one battery, comprising about nine hundred men, with some ten or twelve bands, several of which discoursed excellent music on the grounds, to the enjoyment of the great crowd. The Canton female drum corps was also a center of attraction whenever it appeared and elicited hearty applause. The young ladies receive high encomiums for their ladylike demeanor, as well as their proficiency in the use of the drum sticks.

The officers connected with the encampment have all arrived, except the governor, who will come in to-morrow night and review the brigade Thursday. There are several United States army officers present, among them being Capt. Rockwell of Fort Lincoln, Col. C. F. Townsend of the Eleventh infantry and others. Great crowds are coming in on the trains to-night. The program of camp duty to-morrow is as follows: 6 a. m., reveille; 6:30, roll call; 7 a. m., breakfast; 8 a. m., sergeant report; 8:15, Second regiment guard mount; 9:15, First regiment guard mount; 11:30, inspection; dinner; 1 to 2 p. m., company drill; 3 to 4, battalion drill; 5, Second regiment dress parade; 5:45, First regiment parade; 6, supper; 6:30, retreat; 7:30, open air concert; 9, tattoo; 9:30, taps. A detail of each company will compete for the prizes for proficiency in drill and target shooting.

THE LATE TRAINS

to-night are bringing visitors to Camp Grant from euery section of the territory. The traffic indications are such as to cause the Northern Pacific to announce the shortening up of time of the trains and adding additional ones between Moorhead and Fargo and Camp Grant, commencing to-morrow morning. To-day over 3,000 visitors were carried out on trains, besides the citizens going in carriages. County Treasurer Burke sent his check for $25 to the Argus to-nght, with a letter stating he had heard the various bands at the camp and was anxious that a purse should be raised for a competitive toot. The Argus will publish the letter to-morrow and tranfer the letter to Adjt. Gen. Free, with the request that he offer the money as a prize to the best band, subject to such rules as the officials may determine to be proper. Quartermaster General Peck is, of course, the hardest worked man on the government staff, it being his duty to attend

CAMP EQUIPAGE,

accoutrements, show horses and the like. But Col. Peck has been equal to the occasion, and is everywhere receiving congratulation upon congratulation upon the able manner with which his department has been handled. Some sixty editors from various sections of Dakota are registered to-night and it is expected that at least 100 will be present Tuesday, when the organization of a press club will be attempted at the camp ground. The committee of reception, who have charge of the members of the press, have a large tent at the camp and will keep a register of all visitors. The committee of arrangements have furnished heads for the soldiers and visitors, on the back of which appears a list of Dakota's attainments and Fargo's prosperity. It is supposed there will be at least 15,000 letters from Camp Grant between now and Friday night. General Order No. 18, issued by Gen. Dennis, provides for a competitive drill for all companies entering for the Argus prize of $100 in cash. The order provides that the best drilled company shall receive $60; second, $40. It is expected that fully a dozen companies will compete.

DAKOTA.

Devil's Lake.

Correspondence of the Globe.

DEVIL'S LAKE, Dak., Sept. 20.—Believing that there are many of your readers in the states that like to read of this Northwest, I take the liberty of writing a short article about this beautiful city and the country around it. By looking on your map you will see away up in the northern part of Dakota what appears to be a small lake called Devil's lake, and on the north shore of the lake a town by the same name. It looks small on the map, but when I tell you that Devil's lake proper is forty-five miles long and eight miles wide at the broadest point, and that it is navigable from one end to the other, you wonder. Its shores are lined with large white rocks, and its banks are in many places covered with heavy bodies of timber. The land surrounding the lake is of a gently rolling nature and a rich black soil, making it one of the finest agricultural districts in the world, comprising millions of acres. To show what crops of wheat the soil here will yield, I will say the farmers are now threshing from twenty-eight to forty bushels per acre. Jim Boden, more favorably known in this section as "Romeo," is one of the bonanza farmers. He has over 600 acres of grain this year, and the wheat average on his farm is thirty-two bushels per acre. R. Johnson threshed from twenty-five acres 797½ bushels, machine measure. Lieut. H. M. Creel, at one time father of the town (he sold the town site for something like $40,000), is now one of the bonanza farmers and county commissioners, and the yield on his farm this year will be from twenty to twenty-five bushels. This shows that the soil in this section of Dakota to be superior to many other sections. The first building in Devil's Lake was put up in the spring of 1883, when the terminus of the St. Paul, Minneapolis & Manitoba railroad was twenty-five miles east of here. The city now has a population of about 1,000. The railroad reached here in July, 1883, and it is believed that this will be the terminus for the next two years, making Devil's Lake the entrepot of the great agricultural region extending Northwest to Turtle Mountain and the cattle ranges of the Mouse river. Devil's Lake is now the depot of supplies for all this country, and its situation and advantages are such that it will continue to be for years to come. There are two large elevators here with a combined capacity of 60,000 bushels. There will soon be completed a three-story frame flouring mill, with a capacity of 125 barrels of flour daily. There are several fine churches, a school-house that any town may feel proud of, a skating rink, several hotels, the principle ones being the Lake View, a two-story brick, M. McCollum, proprietor, the Benham house, a two-story frame, Major Benham, proprietor, Tower house, a two-story frame, Mr. Duggan, proprietor. Mr. McCollum used to be collector of customs at Pembina and at Turtle Mountain, which makes him very popular with the people here in the North. To show what a country this is for hunting ducks, geese and prairie chickens, I will say one hardware firm told me they buy shot by the carload and shells by the 50,000 at a time. There are three hardware stores here. H. S. L.

Should Have Revolvers Handy.

Young ladies plucky enough to remain alone in shacks on claims they are making should know how to use a pistol in case of the visits of scalawags, tramps and scoundrels, of which there are occasional specimens in Dakota. The case of Miss McEwan, outraged and murdered in Cavalier county, has suggestions in it for others. In making her claim she visited it at frequent periods, and sometimes spent several days and nights alone in her shack, a quarter of a mile from the nearest neighbor. The fact that the villain was caught and lynched does not recall the dead. She seems to have had no weapon for defense. When the same scoundrel made similar attempts upon another lady, Miss Rodgers, she had means to protect herself, and drove him off; unhappily, however, failing to shoot him.

Ipswich.

During the past week Ipswich wheat buyers have made the farmers happy by bidding wheat up within 6 cents of St. Paul's prices. Some 66,000 bushels of wheat have already been marketed here this fall, some coming a distance of 125 miles....M. K. Kirk, from 500 acres has threshed 7,604 bushels of wheat and 6,600 bushels of oats, besides other grain. Frank Stanford had 367 acres of wheat, which produced 7,150 bushels; 40 acres of oats, 2,516 bushels; besides 1,000 bushels of barley, 1,000 bushels of corn and 200 bushels of flax. Z. W. T. Mitchell from 40 acres of oats, 2,240 bushels; from 6 acres of flax, 97 bushels, and these are not bonanza farmers either....So far as heard from, the Edmunds county wheat crop will average a little over twenty bushels to the acre, and fifty bushels of oats to the acre. Buyers give our farmers credit of having the best grade of wheat in Dakota....Last week occurred the first term of the district court in Edmunds county. About one-third of the calendar was cleared. This district wants an additional judge very much, 15,000 people being a little too many for one judge to cope with.

Mitchell.

A sad accident occurred at the residence of Thomas David, six miles northwest from Mitchell Sunday afternoon, by which the six-year-old son of Thomas Fullerton of this place lost his life. Mr. and Mrs. Fullerton and their son Robert were visiting at Mr. David's house, and the boy was in an upper room with the son of Mr. David. He had started to go down stairs when the latter had spoke to him and said, "Can you shoot, Bob?" As he turned to go back the gun in Mr. David's boy's hand was discharged and the charge of shot took effect in his head, killing him instantly.

Dakota Newslets.

The new M. E. church at Wahpeton, although not quite completed, will be used by the conference the last of the week. It is one of the finest churches in North Dakota. There will probably be over a hundred preachers there, and most of the expert hunters were out Sunday shooting picnic chickens for them. They will be handsomely entertained during their stay. When a Methodist conference met in Fargo a few years ago the whole town spread itself to entertain them. It was in the height of the boom when all public hostelries were overrun. The people turned out by hundreds with a band of music and would not let the preachers spend a cent. One noted gambled took six of them to his house, and none were more hospitable to them than gamblers and saloonkeepers. The visitors were delighted with their sojourn and sounded the praises of Fargo to such an extent that there was a large influx of religious people who have given the place its high moral tone.

In commenting upon the suit at Bismarck for mandamus to compel county treasurers to receive for taxes warrants issued by the capital commission, Gov. Ziebach thinks it a matter of surprise that even the capital commissioners should have cheek enough to demand the payment of the commissioner warrants out of the general fund of the territory. It is insisted that the law is positive and explicit that the commission can only draw upon the building fund donated to the territory in money and lands by Bismarck. There are said to be some $40,000 of these warrants out for which there is no money in the building fund, and it is not desired to sell more of the lands at present figures.

Rev. M. S. Kaufman, the M. E. pastor at Fargo, in his farewell discourse on Sunday morning, stated that in his three years pastorate in Fargo he had officiated at forty-nine weddings and twenty-eight funerals. He also made the surprising statement that in his two years at Grand Forks and three aet Fargo he had never buried a member of his church. Considering that this fact covers about 400 persons, it is a striking evidence of the healthfulness of the Dakota climate, and, perhaps, the sanitary value of Dakota theology. Mr. K. also stated that, with one exception, no other of the ten or twelve churches in Fargo had retained its spiritual director three years.

There have been recently very brilliant appearances of red light in the sky at night. One paper regards it as a halo emanating from the Sioux Falls convention, and another viciously insinuates that it was caused by an attempt of the soldier boys to paint Aberdeen and Fargo red. The auroral and electrical displays recently have been singularly bright and beautiful, whatever their cause.

Wahpeton was proud of the fact last week that a $6,000 preacher from France filled the Congregational pulpit there. He was Rev. M. L. Burger, representative of the Call mission in Paris, and formerly preached at San Francisco at $6,000 a year. He has spent several weeks hunting and visiting about Wahpeton and is of course eloquent and brilliant.

Herbert Welsh, the secretary of the Indian Rights association in the East, recently visited the Crow Creek reservation. The Chamberlain Register evidently was not pleased with the object of his mission, as it dubs him the only genuine dude ever seen in that section. The people near the reservations think they understand the Indian question a little better than the sentimental theorists of the East.

The artesian well at Scotland is down nearly 500 feet and there is a small flow of water, which it is believed will be abundant at a little lower depth.

The editor of the Creighton News, having failed to secure the postoffice, now calls lustily on his subscribers to console him with watermelons.

The fair at Park River in Walsh county commences Oct. 6. It is in a fine agricultural region and will no doubt have a good display of products.

The county treasurers of the territory are to meet at Huron Sept. 30 to deliberate for the good of the people of which they are an important factor.

F. W. Pratt of Connecticut has been the past week looking over Spink county for the location of a colony from the Wooden Nutmeg state.

It is expected that more than 10,000 bushels of flax will be harvested at Lisbon this season. It is an experiment in that section.

As a wheat item it is mentioned that J. W. Major at Minto sold 125,000 pounds of one kind of twine this season.

Hon. Alex McKenzie is erecting a two-story brick, 50x83 feet, at Bismarck for the use mainly of the Tribune.

The crop of the Grandin farm is put at 100,000 bushels, or eighteen bushels to the acre.

IT'S GROWING GREAT.

Fargo, the Young Gate City of North Dakota, the Metropolis of the Red River Valley.

In Structures and Improvements It Compares Favorably With Cities Thrice Its Age.

Its Temples of Finance, Commerce, Education and Religion--A Good Town to Move To.

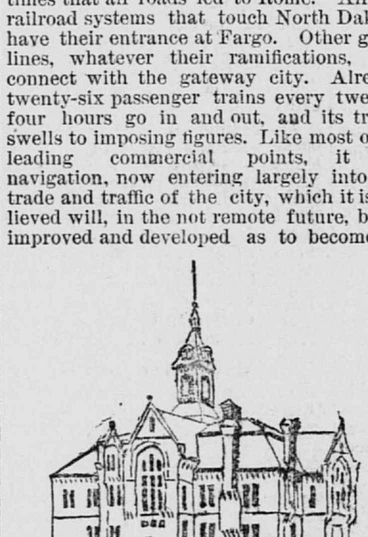
The careful observer of the situation will find little reason to challenge the propriety of the appellation of the metropolis of the Red river valley as applied to Fargo. Still less will he question its fitness as he looks forward to the period when the peerless realm tributary to that emporium shall teem with the vast population its fertile lands are capable of supporting. It is the geographical and commercial gateway to a scope of country one-third larger than the entire state of Illinois, and surpassing it in fertility of soil and capacity of production. Half a decade ago this vast region had but here and there a settler with a few incipient towns and villages. Its entire white population was but 37,000. Its growth in the five years has exceeded 400 per cent. in numbers of those who have found homes, and its development and productions are no less phenomenal. The late census enumerates more than 150,000 permanent residents, and the harvest just closed comprises 14,000,000 bushels of the finest wheat in the world. In the main this entire Northwest is found adapted to the successful and profitable growth of the temperate zone, and especially cattle and other stock. Its beef is

Headquarters Hotel.

like its wheat, superior in fibre and quality, and can compete in growth with even the sections which have no other important product. Illinois with less good land than North Dakota, has a population, largely agricultural, of nearly three millions. Is it not reasonable to expect that with its facilities for intercommunication, the settlement and development of this wonderland will be even more rapid? At the rate of increase of the past five years, the census of 1890 will give North Dakota nearly a half million population and it is a reasonable inference from the facts of the situation that a decade beyond will find more than a million residents in the region to which Fargo is

THE CHIEF GATEWAY.

In location it sustains much the same relation to North Dakota that Omaha does to Nebraska, Kansas City to Kansas, Chicago to Illinois, and St. Paul and Minneapolis to Minnesota. Why not become the Kansas City of the Red? It was said in other times that all roads led to Rome. All the railroad systems that touch North Dakota have their entrance at Fargo. Other great lines, whatever their ramifications, will connect with the gateway city. Already twenty-six passenger trains every twenty-four hours go in and out, and its traffic swells to imposing figures. Like most other leading commercial points, it has navigation, now entering largely into the trade and traffic of the city, which it is believed will, in the not remote future, be so improved and developed as to become an



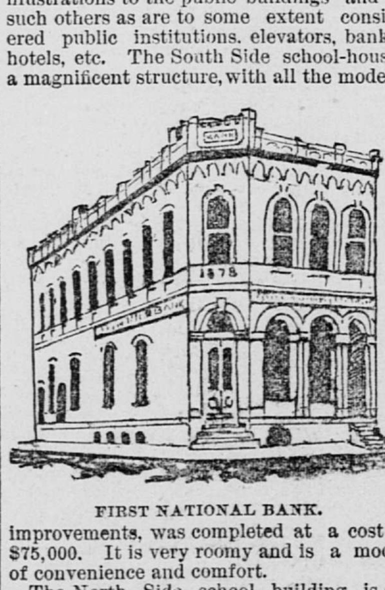
COURT HOUSE.

important factor in settling the imperative demand for cheaper freights. Do not the analogy and precedent point to the location of Fargo as a commanding one, and susceptible in the hands of broad-gauge and discerning men, of becoming the great entrepot and metropolis of the future for a country imperial in extent and resources? Probably no city of its age and growth is so widely known as Fargo.

Its name is a household word in the West and its fame has crossed the waters. Its growth in the first ten years of its history, up to the financial depression of 1883, was a surprise even to its men of largest anticipations, and while it has shared to some extent the prevailing stringency in the business of the country, there has been no depression to the buoyant confidence of its enterprising citizens in the future. They have gone steadily on building for permanency. In this respect Fargo confessedly takes the lead of all the towns in Dakota.

ITS STRUCTURES AND IMPROVEMENTS

have a complete and finished character that is not common to new towns. Many of its business houses are magnificent blocks, and its private residences would do credit to the best cities of the land. The most handsome, complete and substantial buildings are found among those erected the present year, evidencing the fact that the men of capital have an abiding and unabated faith in the destiny of the city of their pride and hope. For want of space the GLOBE has confined its illustrations to the public buildings and to such others as are to some extent considered public institutions, elevators, banks, hotels, etc. The South Side school-house, a magnificent structure, with all the modern



FIRST NATIONAL BANK.

improvements, was completed at a cost of $75,000. It is very roomy and is a model of convenience and comfort.

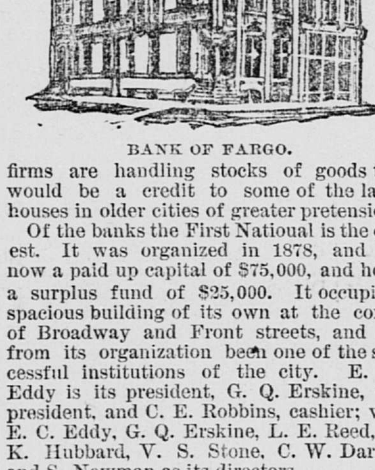
The North Side school building is an enlargement of the old one. The old building had a seating capacity of fifty-five. The new part, which is about completed, is 34x92 feet, two stories and basement. The tower is eighty-five feet high. The combined seating capacity of the building will be 235. It will have all the modern improvements, steam heating, etc., and under the able management of Architect George Hancock, the new part of this elegant roomy building will cost only $16,000. The court house, a substantial structure, will be completed this season at a cost of $75,000. Only a part of it is yet occupied, and is furnished in cherry and leather, lighted with electric light and gas, heated by steam, and the court-room seated with opera chairs, and the building contains ample room for all the court and county offices.

Fargo men are everywhere noted for the intensity of their loyalty to their home. They believe in it as the old Roman believed in the eternal city upon the seven hills. They show their faith by their works, as the most casual observer will note. Their largest and most costly public structures are their school-houses. They are reaching out after the higher educational institutions, and will no doubt secure one or more first-class universities. The ten or twelve religious societies have substantial edifices. Water works and sewerage are being extended to all parts of the city. Both gas and electric lights are found in all business and public places and upon the streets. Contracts have just been made for the erection of two one hundred and twenty-five-foot electric towers. An efficient fire department and electric alarm system have nearly made impossible disastrous fires. Smooth and well-kept streets and broad sidewalks attract favorable notice of visitors.

The telephone system connects with several of the neighboring towns, and the place has the best telegraphic facilities west of St. Paul and Minneapolis. It has a picturesque and beautiful park very near the heart of the city, and two free bridges over the Red river, costing some $20,000 each, have recently been completed. These and other features that might be noted attest the metropolitan character of the city improvements and indicate the confidence of its citizens in the future. They are alert to perceive and improve the rare advantages of their location and with favoring transportation rates Fargo will evidently become the great distributing point and commercial emporium of the North.

BANKS AND BUSINESS.

The thrift of the banking institutions of Fargo is a fair index to the general prosperity that pervades other lines of business, and like those institutions strong mercantile concerns have grown up from smaller beginnings. Owing to the very low prices of the wheat crop of 1884 the merchants did not reap a golden harvest out of their last fall and winter's trade, but they continued through that dull season on safe and conservative grounds, until, with another grand crop, though bringing but little better prices, they have rapidly returned to their former activity, and many of the leading



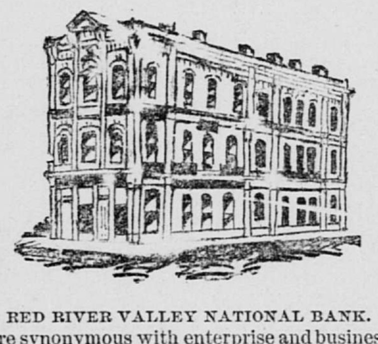
BANK OF FARGO.

firms are handling stocks of goods that would be a credit to some of the large houses in older cities of greater pretensions.

Of the banks the First National is the oldest. It was organized in 1878, and has now a paid up capital of $75,000, and holds a surplus fund of $25,000. It occupies a spacious building of its own at the corner of Broadway and Front streets, and has from its organization been one of the successful institutions of the city. E. C. Eddy is its president, G. Q. Erskine, vice president, and C. E. Robbins, cashier; with E. C. Eddy, G. Q. Erskine, L. E. Reed, N. K. Hubbard, V. S. Stone, C. W. Darling and S. Newman as its directors.

In March, 1879, the partnership known as Charles Sweat & Co., attorneys at law, consisting of Charles Sweat, H. F. Miller and C. C. Schuyler, was formed, and in addition to conducting the business of a law firm, entered into general banking under the name of "The Bank of Fargo." This bank is a private one and until last year has been conducted in rather unpretentious quarters, when their new edifice was completed at a cost of $50,000, exclusive of the ground upon which it is built, and occupied in September. Aside from the successful prosecution of banking, the firm probably controlled a larger practice last year than any other law firm in the territory.

The Red River Valley National bank, the last to commence, but one of the most thrifty and strongest in the territory, was organized April 10, 1881, with a paid up capital of $100,000. Its business has grown steadily, and it at present has a surplus fund of $25,000. It occupies a handsome brick block on Broadway, in the heart of the city. The men starting it, whose names



RED RIVER VALLEY NATIONAL BANK.

are synonymous with enterprise and business integrity, were Stephen Gardner, L. S. Follett, L. W. Follett, S. W. Mairs, John J. Shotwell, W. A. Kindred, D. H. Twomly and C. F. Kindred. The Grandin Bros. of the Grandin bonanza farm are among its stockholders. L. S. Follett is president, Stephen Gardner vice president and L. W. Follett cashier, and the directors are the two Mr. Folletts, Mr. Gardner, Mr. Mairs, W. A. Kindred, George A. Putnam, O. W. Francis and J. G. F. Schneidler.

ELEVATORS.

The Northern Pacific Elevator company, probably the strongest business organization of individuals that exists in the territory, is a Fargo enterprise. Besides its magnificent office building on Broadway, the company owns and operates sixty-four elevators in Minnesota and Dakota, with a combined capacity of 2,500,000 bushels, and of the wheat crop of 1884 it handled over 6,500,000 bushels. Its elevator in Fargo has a capacity of 125,000 bushels. Whatever may be said of the close inspections by its local buyers, the company is in harmony with the progressive spirit of the people of North Dakota, and is wielding a powerful influence in developing the country and in building up its institutions. Mr. G. S. Barnes, late president of the Fargo board of trade, is president of the company; H. W. Holmes, vice president; William Pettit, secretary and treasurer.

The Minneapolis & Northern Elevator company, which is also financially strong, with headquarters in Minneapolis, has a fine elevator at Fargo, with a capacity of 125,000 bushels.

The Grandin Bros. have an elevator on the river with a capacity of 60,000 bushels, and own a line of barges that ply between it and their big farm, a few miles down the river.

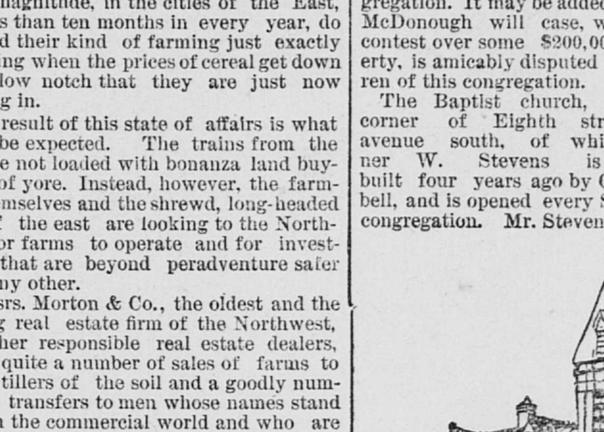
This season the Fargo Southern built an elevator, with a capacity of 30,000 bushels, within the city limits.

The rapid building of railroads, with their main lines and branches radiating from Fargo like the spokes from the hub of a wheel, has deprived the city of late years of much of its grain trade. Yet last year there were over 230,000 bushels taken in from farmers' wagons by the elevators, besides the amount of wheat consumed by the flouring mill, which has a capacity of 100 barrels per day, and the present indications are that the receipts from that source will be largely increased from this year's crop.

REAL ESTATE IN GENERAL.

There has been, lately, a marked improvement in the real estate market at Fargo, and it is only necessary that the price of wheat should advance to a figure that will leave a profit to the gentleman farmer over the cost of production to make the market for all kinds of real property an exceedingly active one.

The man who warms his own plow seat can, perhaps, succeed better at farming in the Red river country than anywhere else, even with the price of agricultural products



Sherman House.

at the present low water mark; but the individuals who desire to raise wheat on a large scale, only visiting their farms in a carriage a little while during the year, and be able to raise something else, on a scale of equal magnitnde, in the cities of the East, not less than ten months in every year, do not find their kind of farming just exactly the thing when the prices of cereal get down to the low notch that they are just now sticking in.

The result of this state of affairs is what might be expected. The trains from the east are not loaded with bonanza land buyers as of yore. Instead, however, the farmers themselves and the shrewd, long-headed men of the east are looking to the Northwest for farms to operate and for investments that are beyond peradventure safer than any other.

Messrs. Morton & Co., the oldest and the leading real estate firm of the Northwest, and other responsible real estate dealers, report quite a number of sales of farms to actual tillers of the soil and a goodly number of transfers to men whose names stand high in the commercial world and who are putting their money into the lands of the most certainly progressive country on the continent.

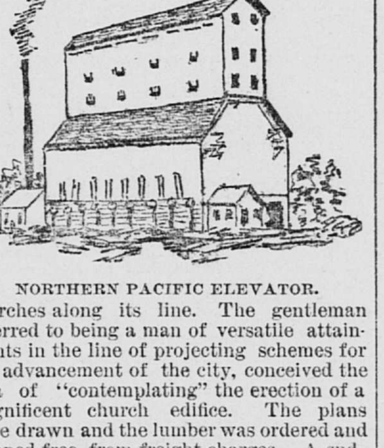
Hardly a day passes but some well-to-do farmer from one of the Eastern states comes to look the ground over; and in nearly every instance these men become purchasers. The country has been advertised so much and so many reports have been received in the East concerning the growth and prosperity of the country that people who do not comprehend the wonderful resources of this most perfect agricultural land are somewhat incredulous as to the reports circulated. It seems hard for a resident of a country of slow growth to believe that in all Dakota fifteen years ago there were scarcely 14,000 people, and that now there are in the same territory nearly half a million souls.

But when they come to see for themselves they become convinced that the Northwest has been rather underrated than overrated and that farmers do better here than elsewhere, and the result is as above stated.

To these conservative and practical men, to the old residents of the valley and to the solid business men of the East who have carefully examined the situation, the sales of real estate are now being made; but, as before said, it is only necessary for the bulls in the wheat market to have their way and to put the price of wheat a little way into the air to make transfers of property in the Red river valley as frequent and for as much money as in the halcyon days of 1882. Real estate in the city has settled down to strong legitimate prices and has developed a good deal of activity during the season.

CHURCHES.

As Fargo never takes a back seat in anything, so she is at the front in spiritual welfare and religious prosperity. Her churches are numerous and progressive. There is a legend that Fargo owes her first church to one of the master strokes of enterprise of one of her leading citizens. The story goes that in the olden times the Northern Pacific railroad was wont to furnish transportation free for all the lumber which was used in the construction of



NORTHERN PACIFIC ELEVATOR.

churches along its line. The gentleman referred to being a man of versatile attainments in the line of projecting schemes for the advancement of the city, conceived the idea of "contemplating" the erection of a magnificent church edifice. The plans were drawn and the lumber was ordered and shipped free from freight charges. A sudden change in the plans reduced the amount of lumber required so very materially that there was enough lumber left on hand, which had been shipped in at the expense of the railroad company, to sell, the proceeds of which are said to have paid for the church. This may or may not be strictly true, but it is a frequently related reminiscence.

The Methodist church occupies an edifice with a seating capacity of about 350, and is at present presided over by Rev. M. S. Kaufman, an old soldier and an able preacher. The church membership is large and, as a result of the efficient work done during a three-years' pastorate by Mr. Kaufman and his accomplished wife, numbers among its regular attendants many of the leading business and professional men of the city. This is the church which Major Edwards of the Argus attends, and where, it is said, he first formed the acquaintance of Judge Mitchell and Contractor Campbell, which has ripened into a triumvitate of political power, invincible in manipulating caucuses, school boards and county conventions.

The Presbyterian church is a house of worship but little smaller than that of the Methodists. The pastor is Rev. D. E. Bierce, who came to Fargo about a year

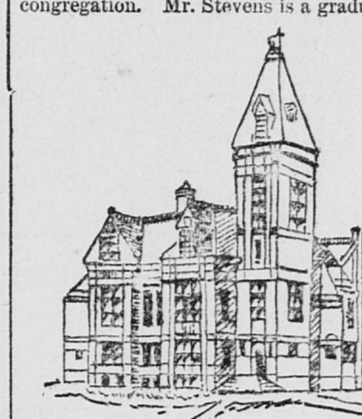
MINNEAPOLIS & NORTHERN ELEVATOR.

ago from Racine, Wis. He is a most diligent laborer in the cause he has espoused and is beloved by his large congregation. This church is graced by the attendance of Councilman Twomey and he who would be Postmaster Martin.

The Episcopal church, of which Rev. B. F. Cooley is the rector, has a pleasant location opposite the court house, on Ninth street. This is probably the most artistically arranged place of worship in the territory. The interior adornments and draperies are rich and costly, and in most excellent taste, and the music is furnished by a large pipe organ, supplemented by a surpliced choir of twenty voices. The architecture of the church is exceedingly striking, being pure Gothic, surmounted by a belfry, in which hangs a sweet-toned, A flat bell, the gift of the Fargos of Buffalo, N. Y., after whom this city is named. This bell, at the end of five years, will be replaced by a chime, which the Fargos have already promised. This is the church where ex-Judge Hudson, Judge McConnell, Mr. Judd and other prominent citizens worship.

The Catholic church, located on Fifth avenue north, is ministered to by Rev. Father Maddocks, a gentleman of rare attainments and exceptional scholastic ability. This church is in a prosperous condition, and in addition to caring for the spiritual need of an extensive congregation, maintains a school of learning which affords fine opportunities for advancement to the young ladies of North Dakota. Attorney Ryan, Supt. Gleason and Ald. William O'Neill are among the prominent attendants, also Mrs. Harry O'Neill, who is said to be one of the most efficient church workers whose presence ever graced a congregation. It may be added that the famous McDonough will case, which involves a contest over some $200,000 worth of property, is amicably disputed among the brethren of this congregation.

The Baptist church, situated at the corner of Eighth street and First avenue south, of which Rev. Sumner W. Stevens is pastor, was built four years ago by Contractor Campbell, and is opened every Sunday to a large congregation. Mr. Stevens is a graduate of



SOUTH SIDE SCHOOL HOUSE.

the Rochester seminary, and is a young man of ability and much promise. The church is in a thriving condition, and numbers among its attendants President Shotwell of the Fargo Lumber company, Col. C. T. Clement, president of the school board; Deacon Gilman, secretary of the Building association, and many others of local prominence.

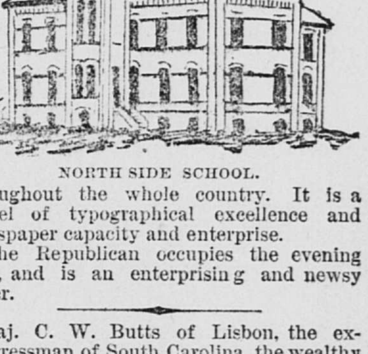
The First Congregational church is also located on Eighth street, and has been organized four years. During the last two years its pastor has been Rev. R. A. Beard. Mr. Beard is a graduate of Oberlin college, and is fast evincing a more than local reputation as a sound theologian, a clear thinker and a gifted orator. President Barnes of the Northern Pacific Elevator company; Col. Geary, register of the land office; A. C. Jordan, editor of the Republican, and Gen. W. T. Clark are among those who regularly listen to the teachings expounded by him.

The Plymouth Congregational chapel is located next the residence of A. J. Harwood on North Broadway, and Rev. William Ewing is the able and efficient pastor. This church has been but recently organized, but has already become a prominent factor of religious power in the city. Among those who worship there may be seen Mr. Harwood, Banker Sweat, President McKendry of the North Dakota Firemen's association and others.

Aside from these churches the Germans have a flourishing organization and a good church building, and the Scandinavians have three, the Lutheran, Baptist and Moravian.

THE PRESS OF DAKOTA

is upon the same general plan as is all other institutions of this famous country of hard wheat and lots of it. The newspaper has almost universally preceded all other branches of business here, and with but few and unimportant exceptions, have prospered and become solid and influential journals. North Dakota has more creditable weekly newspapers and more energetic, wideawake and enterprising daily newspapers than any other section of country of three times its area anywhere on the globe. The daily newspaper, with full telegraphic news service, in towns of 1,200 to 2,000 people, is the rule, not the exception. They are sturdy advocates of the wonderful country, and repay ten-fold every dollar that their patrons invest in them. In fact, it is the press of North Dakota that has made possible the existence of this vast empire, by attracting to it a population which, for moral and intellectual culture, has no superior in any state or territory. The newspapers of Fargo are, of course, the pioneers in journalism of North Dakota. In the morning field is the Argus, which has made a name and place for itself and its editor and proprietor, Maj. Edwards, not only in Fargo and Dakota, but



NORTH SIDE SCHOOL.

throughout the whole country. It is a model of typographical excellence and newspaper capacity and enterprise.

The Republican occupies the evening field, and is an enterprising and newsy paper.

Maj. C. W. Butts of Lisbon, the ex-congressman of South Carolina, the wealthy farmer and townsite owner, county attorney and general uncle to all the children in the region, especially the girls, for whom he always goes loaded with candies and taffy, has just built and dedicated the most costly and complete barn in Ransom county. It has a cupola with flag staff, silver-plated weather cock and statuary by the doors. The major is eccentric, and having no one but himself to provide for, takes delight in using his great income in making others happy and merry. At the recent dedication of his equine and bovine palace, he invited all the young people, secured a full band, himself waltzed as gaily with the girls as if he had not seen fifty-four winters. Among the incidents were twelve kegs of beer, a barrel of pretzels and some fifty pounds of the choicest candies.

Being entirely vegetable, no particular care is required while using Dr. Pierce's "Pleasant Purgative Pellets." They operate without disturbance to the constitution, diet or occupation. For sick headache, constipation, impure blood, dizziness, sour eructions from the stomach, bad taste in mouth, bilious attacks, pain in region of kidneys, internal fever, bloated feeling about the stomach, rush of blood to head, take Dr. Pierce's "Pellets." By druggists.

Thomas Burdett, an Englishman of Montreal, is charged with having two wives in different parts of the city for a long time, with the women knowing it, and by both of them he has families. Burdett has absconded. He supported the two families up to the time of his departure.

"Jack shall pipe and Gill shall dance" just as long out in the open barn as they please. The free born American citizen don't fear neuralgia with Salvation Oil to the front. Only a twenty-five cent investment.