

The Bismarck Tribune.

Bismarck, D. T., Sept. 26, 1877.

The City Schools.

A gentleman who owns large tracts of land near Bismarck writes Col. Sweet that he can and will take the Bismarck school bonds if they are issued in accordance with law.

Now since the bonds can be negotiated there ought to be nothing in the way of the construction of a school house.

Let no one for a moment think of abandoning the enterprise or of deferring construction until next spring.

Thirty-six hundred dollars cash for the work is assured provided the citizens vote the bonds at the meeting on the 4th of Oct.

A brick school house will speak volumes for the city and will be of untold advantage to it.

The schools of Minneapolis have contributed almost as much to its prosperity as it water power. Faribault was built up very largely by its school interest, and no town can long thrive without suitable provision for the instruction of the young.

The school interests of Bismarck have been long enough neglected, and now that we can do it we ought by all means to secure the school building.

But after the school house what?

Without finding fault with former teachers we do hope that the school board will hereafter employ professional teachers. Engage those who propose to make teaching their life work and who are in a situation to remain term after term should their services be desired.

Don't employ any one as a matter of charity or as a favor to anybody. Consider instead their qualifications as teachers, and whether they are adapted to the work we have for them to do.

Build the house as urged and employ the teachers as suggested, and the city schools will soon become a credit instead of a reproach to the city.

Demand for Government Land.

The demand for government land in the vicinity of Bismarck is rapidly increasing though choice tracts may yet be had within four miles of the city.

Evidently the grasshopper trouble is over, though as a matter of fact they never did do much damage in this vicinity, and now no doubts exist as to the worth of the land.

In looking over the farms near Bismarck the writer does not find a single failure to report but crops of every nature have yielded better than the most sanguine hoped for; and that, too, notwithstanding the very dry season, for much of the planting was done after the early rains were over.

From this time forward there will be no room to doubt the worth of this country for agricultural purposes. Hazen may sneer, Powell may write, but the industrious farmer will plant and sow and confidently rely on the promised increase.

It is now established that the country in and about Bismarck is as well adapted to the growth of vegetables of every nature as any country on the face of the earth, and all who have tilled the soil here confidently believe that it will produce better wheat and more to the acre than the famous Red River valley.

It is because of these facts that we find the government lands in this section in demand, and we now urge those seeking homesteads in the West to come to the Missouri valley and to come without delay while choice locations may be had.

North Pacific Lands.

In a late issue of the TRIBUNE we urged those contemplating the purchase of North Pacific lands to move at once as the lands or stock with which these lands are purchased were certain to rapidly appreciate in value and might advance from 12 1/2 to 75 cents within the next twelve months. Already these bonds are held at sixteen and the inquiry for them becomes greater from day to day.

Again we urge these contemplating to purchase of North Pacific lands to buy their bonds without delay and examine the land afterward, remembering the fact that lands in the Red River valley bought at one dollar per acre a year ago are to-day worth from ten to fifteen dollars per acre, because the wheat farms adjoining are yielding from twenty to thirty-five bushels per acre.

Thousands of acres as good as the best now under cultivation, and nearly as handy to market, may yet be had at 80 cts. per acre.

As an evidence of the increased business of the North Pacific it is stated that over two hundred more transportation bonds have been filed in the custom house at Duluth this season than for any previous year. This relates to the Canadian trade alone, while the net profit to the North Pacific from moving the wheat crop, will exceed one hundred thousand dollars. Indeed, it is estimated that the net earnings of the road this year will reach one million dollars.

An exchange says: "The Northern Pacific railroad company is doing an immense land office business. The land sales by this company for the month of August last were 76,678 acres; for which was received \$339,717. The total sales of this company in Minnesota and Dakota amount to 1,025,460 acres, for \$4,754,400."

THE UPPER COUNTRY.

Notes and News of Interest—Sitting Bull and the Nez Perces—Movement of troops—A Correspondent with a Conscience—A Brave Frontiersman.

Correspondence Bismarck Tribune.

FORT BUFORD, September 19, 1877.—The steamer Benton arrived this evening, and after discharging Buford freight proceeded up river.

Capt. J. W. Smith arrived last evening from Tongue River and hearty as of yore. We learn that Capt. Smith intends going East soon, and will probably spend a part of the winter in Bismarck.

Maj. Mitchell, late Indian Agent at Fort Peck, arrived last evening from that place, en route East. Maj. Mitchell leaves hosts of friends behind him, and it may with certainty be said that during his administration at the Agency everything was literally "done on the square." Wherever he goes may success attend him.

People are weaving too much romance about Sitting Bull's career. That's a very good story about his being a graduate of St. John's college of Manitoba, but then there are many that know his alma mater was the university of Unkpapa. He has been at Fort Garry but once as a visitor, and never has been anywhere else, we except the few places on the Missouri that have sometimes known him for a brief season, his home being the prairie and the wilderness.

All this time that Sitting Bull has been marching towards the Nez Perces, and crossing that line—on paper—he has in reality been lying quietly in the British Possessions, and entertaining visitors. People from the upper country tell me that very few of the scouts in Government employ ever venture into Sitting Bull's camp, that in most cases "distance lends enchantment to the view." Howard was undoubtedly there with Father Martin, but that was a special occasion. Indeed it is a well known fact that the old fellow is not partial to scouts, who are employed to watch him. I am also told that it is especially noticeable at present that all the Indians between here and the boundary have very little ammunition—that the Yanktonnais and Assiniboines are "running" buffalo with bows and arrows on this account, and it is the prevailing opinion that, with them all, ammunition is a scarce commodity. It is said that the Indians were somewhat "mixed" upon first hearing of the "Sitting Bull commission." Some one told of it in the Yanktonnais' camp, and from the manner in which it was communicated, they understood that the commission would be accompanied by a large force from this side of the line, that the British troops would close in on the other, and whether they would or no, the noble red man would have to succumb. Of course the news was carried to Sarah, I beg your pardon, I mean Sitting Bull, and they do say that there was some hard talk on his part, the British Commandant guaranteeing a winter's board to the original story teller should he be found within their lines. I could fill columns of the Tribune with very interesting reports of interviews, narrow escapes, &c., but then, there is a hereafter you know.

Sometimes in my rambles "about town" I meet with men "who have been there" in the fullest sense of the western vernacular, I am thinking of one now—I saw him to-day—he is a quiet unassuming, gentlemanly fellow, who will throw his rifle over his shoulder, walk out a little way into the suburbs, bring down a deer nonchalantly—he has been known to do the same thing for an Indian—to make him good—and play you a good game of billiards afterward in a social way, and not spoil your "shot" by any recital of personal prowess. He wears his hair and the rest of his clothes like you and, as is brave as a lion, a good shot, a good scout and a thorough good fellow. When he sees this he will feel inclined to "draw a bead" on me—the boys call him "Vic," his initials are Victor Smith.

FORT BUFORD, Sept. 21.—The wily Joseph with his band of Nez Perces has again succeeded in eluding the troops, and is now on his way to the Musselshell country. The Nez Perces passed Sturgis' command while he was scouting toward Stinking-water, the Indians and Gen. Howard in pursuit, both passing on Sturgis' right. It is supposed they will cross the Yellowstone near the mouth of Clark's Fork, and they are evidently making for the Musselshell country, hoping to make a junction with some band or bands of hostile Sioux. It has once more become a stern chase and a very hard one at that. Howard and Sturgis are in full pursuit, but their animals are well worn out, and the Indians are said to make excessively long marches. Gen. Howard has called on Gen. Miles to assist in checking these Indians, and the latter with what force he can spare from the Yellowstone country, is pushing across country to the Musselshell with a view to intercept the hostile Nez Perces if possible.

As Gen. Howard and Sturgis will doubtless follow Joseph to the Missouri, this will throw a large body of troops into the upper country, and rations and supplies will have to be forwarded from this point. The steamer Gen. Meade, which arrived yesterday with supplies for this point and the Yellowstone posts, is now being loaded at the landing with supplies for these troops on the upper Missouri. There are more supplies at Peck and Carroll, sent up during the summer, in anticipation of a movement north by the troops. Gen. Sturgis is pushing his troops in pursuit making 50 fifty miles a day with his horses in a jaded condition from the long marches they are obliged to make in order to gain at all on the main body of the Indians who succeed in making

marches of great length with those ponies that "last so long living on nothing."

Gen. Miles will do all in his power to get ahead of them, but it is somewhat doubtful if he succeed in doing so, as they have got a good start of him, and know how to improve it.

The latest information here is that the Nez Perces have crossed the Yellowstone somewhere near Clark's Fork and are perhaps about forty hours in advance of the troops.

The Meade will get away this evening or early to-morrow morning; will take on supplies at Peck in addition to those loaded at this point, and will leave a company of the 6th infantry from Fort Peck as guard to the supplies.

REX.

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A. B. WILLEY, - - - Manager.

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Cor. 5th & Meigs Sts.,

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WAGONS, CARRIAGES,

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First-class in every particular. New and elegantly furnished.

Certainly the Best Hotel in the City.

Headquarters for Wisconsin, Minnesota and Dakota people.

E. WELCH & CO., Prop'r's.

H. PEASE, Manager.

PUBLIC SALE.

By authority from the Commissioner of Indian Affairs, I will offer at public sale at Fort Peck, Montana, the Agency Buildings at Fort Peck, on Saturday the 20th day of October next, and at Fort Belknap on Friday the 25th day of October, the Agency Buildings at Fort Belknap. This sale will include all the stockade, 386 feet, at Belknap and all the stockades and bastions at Peck. The sale at each place will be between the hours of 10 a. m. and 2 o'clock p. m., and the property will be sold to the highest bidder for cash in hand.

Fort Peck Indian Agency, September 11th, 1877.

47-5w W. BIRD, U. S. Indian Ag't.

PROPOSALS FOR WAGON TRANS-

Office of the Chief Quartermaster Dep't of Dakota.

Saint Paul, Minn., September 19th, 1877. Sealed proposals in triplicate, subject to the usual conditions and requirements, will be received at this office until 12 o'clock at noon, on the 10th day of October, 1877, at which time and place they will be opened in the presence of bidders, for the transportation of military supplies for the remainder of the year ending December 31, 1877, on the following route:

Between Fort Buford, D. T., and posts and depots on the Yellowstone River, M. T.

Proposals must be accompanied by a bond guaranteeing that in case the contract is awarded to the bidder he will duly execute the same.

The Government reserves the right to reject any and all bids that may be offered.

Blank forms of proposals, guarantee, bond requirements, etc., can be had on application, to this office.

Payment for the service in the case will depend upon a future appropriation for the purpose.

Envelopes containing proposals should be marked "Proposals for Wagon Transportation, between Fort Buford, D. T., and posts on the Yellowstone River, M. T., and addressed to the undersigned."

HENRY C. CALDWELL,

Chief Quartermaster.

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Tickets for \$4.50; 100 Tickets \$9.00.

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Similar Allotments on the 15th and last days

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Aug. 10th, 1877.

29tf

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In their seasons.

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All kinds of

BRICK AND STONE WORK

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Brick per Hundred \$1.20.

A liberal reduction will be made for larger quantities. Parties wishing to build will find it to their interest to get our figures on brick buildings, then compare with wooden structures. You can save the difference in cost in two years insurance.

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