History of
Our County and State

Compiled by
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DEDICATION

This book is dedicated to those hardy pioneer homesteaders who first sought a permanent home in this county. Their faith, foresight, and fortitude in the face of blizzards, droughts, grasshoppers, prairie fires, and loneliness made possible the establishment, development, and future of our county.

PREFACE

I have always felt that the teaching of state history would be more effective and more easily retained by the pupils if specific instances of a local historical nature could be cited when teaching a general subject. Instead of merely saying that the Dakota Boom in population lasted from about 1876 to 1890, pupils can be told of the speed with which their own county was settled by citing the actual census figures for 1870, 1880 and 1890. Instead of stating that railroads were built into the state from 1872 on, pupils can be told of the exact date when their particular county's railroads arrived. To cite examples of this sort to the pupils, teachers have to know their local history, and yet teachers move around in the state so much, and the sources of local history are so scattered, that few teachers are familiar with the story of the locality or county in which they teach.

Many teachers of South Dakota history feel that the teaching of the course can be greatly improved if sources and reference books are more readily available.

This social studies reference book has been compiled with this objective in view: to make it a ready source of information for the use of teachers and pupils in the study of Units VII & VIII of the Sixth Grade Course of Study for South Dakota schools.

In carrying out this objective I have done the following:
1. I have gathered together all the known historical accounts of the county which have appeared in print, omitting what has been published in special anniversary editions of newspapers or in books too long or too detailed to copy.

2. I have given the origins of all place names of towns and villages in the county.

3. I have compiled the census figures of all the towns and townships in the county from the earliest federal census to that of 1950. Thus the growth or decrease of population for any of the political units of the county, and of the county itself, can easily be determined.

4. I have compiled a list of general and specific references to the history and related subjects of the county, its towns, nationality groups, and institutions.

5. I have included two little-known and inaccessible, but excellent, accounts of the southeastern part of the state and the early history of the territory and state.

6. Finally, I have included, word for word, Units VII & VIII of the Course of Study for the Sixth Grade together with the page references to the most easily found reference texts and books to aid the teacher of these units.

I sincerely hope that teachers and students of these units will find the book useful to them.

A final word: The historical accounts were copied out verbatim and the authors have not always agreed with one another in statements made, dates, spellings of names, etc. No attempt has been made to correct or point out these occasional discrepancies.

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Outline map of Southeastern South Dakota*
* showing the location of the county seats
YANKTON COUNTY

Yankton County is one of the southern tier, and is bounded on the North by Hutchinson and Hayne, on the East by Clay, on the South by Nebraska from which it is separated by the Missouri River, and on the West by Bon Homme. It extends twenty-four miles East and West, and about the same distance North and South. Its general features are the same as the other counties bordering on the Missouri River. It has a strip of bottom lands extending along the river, varying in width from a few rods to several miles in width, the balance being rolling prairie, well adapted to pasturage or tillage.

SOIL

The soil is a rich sandy loam, very fertile and produces well any kind of grain or vegetables, usually grown in this altitude.

CLIMATE

The climate is healthful and pleasant, the winters being generally not so long as in the same Latitude in New England, and usually quite mild until near January, about which time occasionally severe storms occur and which last for a few days only, succeeded by several weeks of fair weather. The springs generally commence early in March, the Missouri River breaking up soon after the middle of this month and by the first of April farmers have generally finished sowing their wheat and oats. The summer weather is not hot and sultry, owing to the pleasant breezes which invariably spring up in prairie countries, some time in the forenoon and continue through the day. The evenings are generally cool and pleasant. The rainy season of Dakota usually comes in the month of June, but showers are frequent during the spring and summer. It is a fixed fact however that there is much less cloudy weather at Yankton, than in central New York. The climate is usually healthy, fevers and lung diseases not being frequent among those who have long breathed the pure air of Dakota.

A gentleman from central New York who took up his residence at Yankton in the winter of 1869, says he had been troubled with asthma for nine years so as not to be able to lay down to sleep at night during that time, but that he has been able to lay in bed and sleep comfortably every night since he arrived at Yankton. Fever and ague is not common.
TIMBER

The greatest portion of the timber of Yankton County is to be found along the Missouri River in the southern part of the county, but considerable timber exists in ravines, running out from the Missouri and Dakota Rivers. Good timber land sells at prices ranging from fifteen to fifty dollars per acre, according to location.

STEAM MILLS

At Yankton a steam saw mill is owned and operated by A.P. Hammon & Co., a majority of the logs for which are rafted down the Missouri from the heavy bodies of timber lying on both sides of the Missouri a few miles above Yankton.

The steam saw mill company owning the mill at Yankton also own and run a saw mill situated in the timber, eight miles above Yankton.

Two steam saw mills and several flouring mills are in operation on the Nebraska side, within a few miles of Yankton. Cottonwood lumber is furnished by the aforesaid mills at $25 per thousand, and shingles at $4 per M.

Good mill sites are found on the Dakota River, North of Yankton, some of which will be improved during the present summer. Wheat is a staple product of Dakota, and when the country shall be developed, and sufficient mills be erected to manufacture at home all the wheat raised, then will Dakota compete with any of the bread producing States.

WATER

The Missouri River washes the entire Southern boundary, while the Dakota River runs diagonally across the county from Northwest to Southeast.

The Dakota has numerous creeks emptying into it, the most important of which is Beaver Creek, six miles North of Yankton. Springs are common along the bluff which border on the bottom lands along the rivers, many of which are the sources of streams of considerable size.

Good wells of excellent water are generally easily found on the bottoms by digging from ten to twenty feet, and on the uplands, from fifteen to thirty feet. Plenty of stone can be found on the prairies for stoning walls. In the city of Yankton wells are from thirty to fifty feet deep. Cement cisterns are in common use, and give universal satisfaction. The cost of a cistern holding several hundred barrels of water is from thirty to fifty
dollars.

The Missouri River water, when thoroughly settled, excels well water for culinary purposes or for drinking. It is hauled around the city by "The Water Man," in a tank containing several barrels and delivered at the doors of citizens by the barrel. When first taken from the river it has a milky appearance, but after standing a few hours it becomes perfectly clear and ready for use.

TOWNS

Yankton, the county seat of Yankton county, is beautifully located on the north side of the Missouri River, on a level plateau, about twenty feet above the river. It is nearly surrounded by a semi-circle of bluffs rising considerable above the level plateau on which the town is built, furnishing excellent sites for public buildings, or elegant private residences, commanding at once a beautiful view of the river, with its busy steamboats, and of the fertile bottoms bordering on the river above and below the town.

About four hundred acres of land has been platted and recorded, and offered for sale. The streets run north and south and east and west, crossing each other at right angles; north and south streets are 100 feet wide, except Douglas Avenue and Broadway, which are 120 feet wide; east and west streets are 80 feet wide. The streets are nearly level, and require but little grading. The eastern portion, or "Lower Yankton," was platted by W. A. Burleigh and C. F. Picotte, in 1868. The middle portion, or "Yankton," by J. B. S. Todd, also in 1868. In 1869, "West Yankton," was laid out by Messrs. Stutsman, Armstrong and Wetmore, and in 1870 "North Yankton" was laid out by Messrs. McIntyre and Foster. The title to these tracts is perfect, and as city lots are in good demand, fair prices are readily obtained for eligible property.

The first settlement of the town commenced in 1859, as soon as the Indians were removed. George D. Fiske, Francis Chappel, Enos Stutsman, D. T. Bramble and Gen. Todd were among the first white occupants of the site of Yankton. Mrs. H. C. Ash was the first white woman who came to Yankton to reside. Mr. Ash was proprietor of the first hotel in Yankton.

For eight years, Yankton, although the capital of the Territory, did not thrive rapidly. The frontier was kept in a constant state of excitement in consequence of the Indian wars.

Dakota was also suffering from the effects of a severe drouth, which
lasted several months, and discouraged many of the settlers. But the cloud
that had hung over the Northwest for a number of years, at length passed
away, and the sunlight of prosperity shone upon Dakota, and her capital
city soon began to improve. For two years last past rapid improvement has
been made. The city has been incorporated, and steps taken to establish a
grade for the principal streets. Two churches have been erected, and a
third one is to be built this summer. New schools have been established,
taught by competent and experienced teachers. New branches of trade have
been opened, and new enterprises started, until every branch of business,
every trade and profession, found in eastern cities has a representative
here. Col. I.N. Higbee, chief clerk in the Surveyor General's office, in
a letter to the Union & Dakotaian in speaking of the present condition of
Yankton, says:

"Yankton now contains 180 buildings, inclusive of barns and other
houses—100 are occupied as residences, the balance as stores, offices,
shops, etc., of which I enumerate as follows, to-wit: One dry goods and
clothing; three general assortment; two groceries and feed; two boot and
shoe; one furniture; two books and stationery; two drug and medicines; two
hardware and stoves; one saddle and harness; two jewelry; two agricultural;
two tinware; one fruit and cigars; two meat markets, provisions and feed;
one merchant tailor; three boot and shoe manufactories; two wagon shops;
three blacksmith shops; one cabinet shop; four carpenter shops; two barber
shops; one paint shop; one bakery and confectionery; one photograph gallery;
one bank; one Masonic hall; one good Templars hall; one billiard saloon;
two beer saloons; two saloons; four hotels; three churches; three schools;
one flouring mill; one saw-mill; one brewery; one printing office; Governor's
office; Chief Justice's office; U.S. Marshal's office; U.S. Surveyor General's
office; five Land Agents offices; five doctors offices; one dentist
office; six law offices; register of deeds office; judge of probate and
treasurer's office; clerk of the court's office; one U.S. jail; county jail;
one caboose; nineteen lawyers; nine doctors; one dentist; five land agents;
also quite a large number of carpenters, joiners, plasterers, brick and stone
masons; and many other mechanical branches of trade, professions, etc., etc.,
such as are incident to a town of the size of Yankton; but I have specified
sufficient to show the "status" of the city.

Since the above was written, several new stores and offices have been erected, and at present writing (May 1, 1870) the sound of the carpenters hammers are heard in every direction, and new buildings are going up in every portion of the town.

Several railroads are pointing to Yankton, two of which will probably reach this city inside of two years, and one of which it is hoped will be built within fifteen months. The Dakota & Northwestern Railroad, chartered to run westward from Sioux City, through Elk Point and Vermillion, may be the first railroad to reach Yankton.

The Yankton Division of the Milwaukee & St. Paul Railroad bids fair to run to Yankton from the eastern line of the Territory, near the mouth of Rock River, a tributary of the Big Sioux River.

The Minnesota & Missouri River Railroad is chartered to run from the eastern line of Dakota, near Sioux Falls, to Yankton, which would give a direct communication with the lumber sections of Minnesota.

The Omaha & Northwestern Railroad is pointing to Yankton as its northern terminus.

The Fremont & Missouri Valley Railroad will come up the Elk Horn River directly towards Yankton, and an effort will be made to secure its termination at a point opposite Yankton, on the Missouri. The friends of Niobrara, Neb., contend that their town will be the terminus of the road, but it is not altogether improbable that the road will in any event have a branch to Yankton.

Bills have been introduced into Congress for a grant of lands for all these roads, except those in Nebraska, and they now have a grant of 100,000 acres each from the State of Nebraska. This alone will insure their early completion. That all these railroads will be built within the next five years the people of Dakota do not probably expect; but that two or three of them will be built inside of two years few well informed citizens of the Missouri Valley, in Dakota, doubt.

A Missouri River Packet Company has been formed and will run a regular line of Steamboats between Sioux City and Yankton and occasionally to Fort Randall, D.T. The Steamer "Miner," the first boat of this line, landed at Yankton on the 12th of April a large quantity of freight and passengers.

A steam ferry has been chartered across the river at Yankton and will
be in operation by the first of July 1870.
Yankton is surrounded by an excellent agricultural country, the trade of which centers at Yankton. It also has an extensive trade with the upper river country. Some of the business houses of Yankton do a business of $200,000 per annum with a steadily increasing trade each year.
Yankton has one of the best landings on the Missouri River, and the town standing on high ground presents a beautiful appearance when ascending the river.
The population of Yankton is about fifteen hundred.
The society of Yankton is excellent, being mostly made up of persons who have enjoyed the advantages of Eastern society and education. It would be difficult to find a section of country East or West, with more enterprising and intelligent citizens; or agreeable and entertaining society than can be found in Dakota.
Yankton is the Capital of the Territory and the sessions of the Territorial Legislature are held here, and the officers of the Governor, Secretary, Chief Justice, Marshal, District Attorney, Surveyor General, Assessor Internal Revenue, Auditor and Treasurer are kept at the Capital. It is also the county seat of Yankton county, and the various county offices are kept in Yankton.
The city boasts as good hotel accommodations as can be found anywhere at the West. The "International," H.E. & J.P. Bonesteel proprietors has an enviable reputation, while the St. Charles has been leased by a competent landlord and is being fitted up in good style. The "Bradly Hotel" has also good accommodations.
Three religious denominations hold services regularly in Yankton. The Protestant Episcopal's in their Church on the corner of Walnut and Third Streets. The Congregationalists in their new Church corner of Walnut and Fifth Streets, and the Methodists in Burleigh's Hall on Broadway. Each of these societies have good congregations and flourishing Sabbath Schools.

M.U. Hoyt is Postmaster, and Wm. N. Collameri is Mayor of Yankton.

STONE

Good limestone abounds on the rolling prairies in every section of Dakota.
Along the Missouri River chalk stone bluffs crop out, furnishing an inexhaustible quarry of excellent building stone. Its color is mostly light yellow or gray, but it is frequently found of a bluish cast resembling in appearance New England marble. It is susceptible of being cut or sawed into blocks of any desired shape or size, and when properly put up makes an elegant building. Buildings made of this material have been standing in Yankton for several years, proving its durability. It is cheaper than pine lumber and makes equally as elegant and durable a building.

CHURCHES

Rev. Dr. Hoyt, Pastor of the Protestant Episcopal Church at Yankton, gives us the following items concerning his church:

"Occasional services were held in the settled portions of the Territory during the years 1861 and 62. Since which time Rev. M. Hoyt has resided at Yankton and held regular services at Yankton and other places in the Territory. The first church was organized by this denomination in 1864. The first church building erected at Yankton in 1865. In 1867 church edifices were erected at Elk Point and Vermillion. 

Present Condition June 25, 1866

Christ's Church, Yankton, Rector Rev. M. Hoyt, D.D. Dean of the Territory. Number of families 32. Communicants 56. Yankton is the seat of an Associate Mission, composed of Rev. Dr. Hoyt and Messrs. H.C. Burr and W. H.H. Ross. The counties of Yankton, Bon Homme, Lincoln and Minnehaha comprise the Mission.

St. Andrews Church is located at Vermillion. Rev. P.B. Morrison, Rector. This church was organized in 1868 and has six communicants. Mr. Morrison's Mission comprises the counties of Clay and Union. Regular services are held at Elk Point, Richland and Vermillion, with occasional services at other points."

To the energy and perseverance of Dr. Hoyt the Protestant Episcopal Church in Dakota is much indebted for its present standing, it having been the first religious denomination to hold services permanently in the Territory, and the first to organize a High School, where a liberal education can be obtained.

The Norwegians (Lutheran) have a flourishing society six miles East of Yankton near Bergen post office. Rev. Mr. Christianson is the Pastor.

The First Congregational Church of Yankton was gathered by Rev. E.W.
Cook, formerly of Ripon, Wis., in the latter part of March, 1868. He came to Yankton in March, 1868, under the direction of the American Home Missionary Society. A meeting was held on the 6th of April, 1869, when the church was formed by the adoption of a confession of faith and a covenant. Eleven persons signed the original articles. Services were held in the Episcopal Church for a few weeks, and afterwards in the Capitol Building, until the fall of 1869, after which the society worshipped in their new church although, not fully completed. A Sabbath School was organized by Mr. Cook. The average attendance for the first six months was 52 members.

In November, 1868, Rev. Joseph Ward and his wife arrived in Yankton to take charge of the interests of the church. He was ordained and installed pastor of the church on the 23d of March, 1869. Services were held at this time in the Capitol Building, and although the congregation wished for a new church, none dared to hope for one for many years. On the Christmas tree, in the winter of 1868-9, was found a gift of two eligible city lots for a site for a church. It was the gift of Gen. J. B. S. Todd. This generous gift so inspired the congregation that they resolved to build a church. Accordingly, a building committee was appointed and a subscription circulated. In the summer of 1869, Mr. Ward, the Pastor, went East and received from friends of the cause in New England substantial aid towards building the church. It is now enclosed and painted, but the spire is not completed or the church plastered. This will be done in the spring of 1870. Mr. Ward is entitled to great credit for his perseverance in building up his church. As an evidence of the spirit that actuated the congregation and citizens of Yankton, it may not be out of place to state that the ladies of the church by three entertainments or festivals realized over $1,000, in less than a year. When the church is completed and a sweet toned bell hung in the spire, the congregation will feel that they have a pleasant church home.

The Methodists have had a church organization in Yankton for several years. Rev. W. E. Smith, the present Pastor, holds services in Burleigh's Hall, on Broadway. Steps are being taken to erect a church costing $8,000, in Yankton, during the present summer. We learn the enterprise meets with favor, and the friends of the church are sanguine of success. A prosperous Sabbath School is connected with this church. Rev. Bennett Mitchell is
P.E. of the Sioux City District, in which district Yankton is situated.

SCHOOLS

There are ten organized school districts in Yankton county--supporting schools, free to all persons between the ages of 5 to 21. The salary of teachers ranges from $25 to $50 per month, except in the city of Yankton, where $100 per month has been paid to the Principal, and $40 per month for assistants.

Dakota Hall is the name of a High School located at Yankton, under the charge of Rev. M. Hoyt, Rector of the Episcopal Church. A thorough academic course can be obtained at this school.

A private school has been opened by Rev. Mr. Ward, in which the English branches, with higher mathematics and languages are taught.

EARLY HISTORY

In the spring of 1859, the Yankton tribe of Indians were removed from Yankton county to their reservation near Fort Randall and as soon as the Indians had left, a great portion of the land bordering on the Missouri River, in the vicinity of Yankton, was claimed by white settlers. James M. Stone, J.R. Hanson, J.S. Presho, J.E. Witherspoon and Wm. Werdebaugh located in 1859 upon the farms now owned by them, in the vicinity of Yankton. Thos. Frick, Henry Arend, John Betz and John Stanage located during the same year on the farms now owned and occupied by them on the Dakota River. In the same year, M.K. Armstrong, one of the pioneers of Dakota, and one whose voice and hand has aided in every possible way for the last ten years to build up Dakota, came across the country from Minnesota with an ox team and settled at Yankton. The next year several families of Norwegians settled in the timber in the vicinity of Haggan's Bend.

Many claims were improved near Yankton, previous to the breaking out of the Indian difficulties in 1862, several of which were entered by the claimants, and the others totally abandoned; among the former class were the farms of O.B. Wheeler, Enos Stutsman and Wm. Thompson.

Maj. W.P. Lyman, Samuel Mortimer, Adolph Mauxsch and Henry Bradley were among the earliest settlers of Yankton County.

H.C. Ash opened the first hotel in Yankton county in 1859, near the site of the International.

- D.T. Bramble was the pioneer merchant, opening his store on the levee in 1859; during the same year Mr. Bramble was appointed Postmaster, and
opened the first post-office in Yankton.

Gen. Todd's office on Broadway was the first frame building erected in Yankton county. At the time of the memorable "Minnesota Massacre," in 1862, quite a number of settlers were living upon their claims in the vicinity of Yankton and along the Dakota River, and upon the receipt of the news of the troubles in Minnesota, the settlers assembled at Yankton and built fortifications within which they remained at night for several weeks.

In September 1862, while the citizens of Yankton were fortifying the town, the Norwegian settlers at the Lakes and at Haggen's Bend, gathered together at Ole Sampson's in the timber near the Missouri and kept guard around their encampment for nine days. Their company numbered eighteen men and boys, large enough to handle a gun, and a number of women and children. While they were thus keeping guard two of their number went up the lakes and found that the Indians had just left Peter Stephenson's house, where they had killed a pig and roasted it. A squad of soldiers came up from Vermillion and "corralled" the Indians in the house; several shots were fired without effect and being unable to dislodge them, the soldiers left for Yankton. As soon as the soldiers left the Indians retreated, and no further damage was done. The Norwegians however became tired of close quarters in the Bend and resolved to cross the Missouri River to St. Helena in Nebraska. Accordingly they swam their stock of horses and cattle, consisting of 191 head) across the river and paddled their families over in canoes. After remaining at St. Helena for two weeks they returned to their respective dwellings. Every cabin on the frontier in those days was a small fortress, well stocked with guns, revolvers and ammunition. The Indians knowing this fact seldom ventured near the settlements.

Late in the fall of 1862, several of the settlers returned to their farms and have remained on them ever since, but generally those who had selected claims abandoned them and entered the military service or left the country. Of those who have lived on their claims and obtained a title to them under the Homestead act, by virtue of a five years residence on them, are Washington Reed, P.H. Risling, Henry Strunk and Dr. A. Van Osdel.

In 1864 the "New York Colony" brought an addition of twenty families to the permanent population of Yankton county.
In the fall of 1866, C.H. McIntyre, Warren Osborn, Milton Morey, R.H. Jones and A.M. Lee came into the country from Minnesota and took claims two miles west of Yankton on the Bon Homme road. Mr. Morey located on "Jim River." About this time W.W. Benedict located upon the first farm opened up on the flat between Yankton and the Dakota River. T.W. Brisbine selected his claim in the spring of 1867 and built his house and dug a well during the summer. During the summer of 1867, the settlements extended westward toward Bon Homme and North up the Dakota River to Beaver Creek. Several claims were made this season on Clay Creek in the Eastern part of the county. During 1868 and 69, Yankton county settled up very rapidly and many extensive farms were opened, crops were uniformly good, and all classes prospered.

There is a post-office at Marindall, on Clay Creek, 12 miles northeast of Yankton, on the Sioux Falls road. Ole Peterson, Postmaster.

A new post-office will be required in the valley of the Dakota River, north of Yankton, immediately, for the accommodation of the settlements, that extend up the river for twenty miles.

The following is a list of the names of the officers of Yankton County:

County Clerk--James S. Foster, Yankton, D.T.
Judge of Probate and Treasurer--T.W. Brisbine, Yankton, D.T.
Sheriff--Geo. W. Black, Yankton, D.T.
Deputy Sheriff--H.J. Brisbine, Yankton, D.T.
County Attorney--James A. Hand, Yankton, D.T.
County Commissioners--Chas. Eiseman, Newton Edmunds and C.S. West, Yankton, D.T.

For a number of years Union County took the lead at the U.S. Land Office, in the number of acres entered as homesteads, and filed upon by pre-emptions; but the land in Union County is now nearly all taken, and Clay and Yankton counties are taking the lead in the number of acres taken by actual settlers. It is fair to presume that most of the land in each of these counties will be claimed during the summer of 1870.

(Copied from pages 124-136 in James S. Foster's Outlines of History of the Territory of Dakota..., 1870, reprinted in Volume XIV of South Dakota Historical Collections, 1928.)
Yankton County lies on the Missouri River in the southeastern part of Dakota, in latitude, (central through the county), 43 degrees north, and between 20° 8' and 20° 35' longitude west from Washington. It is bounded on the north by Turner and Hutchinson counties, on the south by the Missouri River, which separates it from the State of Nebraska, on the east by Clay and Turner counties, and on the west by Bon Homme County. It contains 12 full congressional and 5 fractional townships of land, its approximate area being about 24 x 22 miles, equivalent to 528 square miles or 337,920 square acres. The James or Dakota River passes through the county diagonally from northwest to southeast, dividing it into two nearly equal portions. The immediate valley of this stream averages about one mile in width. There are several smaller streams in the county, but none of importance. In the southeastern part are a number of exceedingly crooked bayous, most probably portions of former channels of the James River. In the Missouri River are several islands, the most important of which is Elk Island, a short distance below Yankton, which contains several hundred acres.

The Missouri River bottoms in this county vary in width from one mile to several miles and are very fertile.

The county is made up of rolling prairie, and river and creek bottoms, and is unexcelled in the production of grass, small grains, Indian corn and vegetables.

Stock raising is an important industry and considerable attention is paid to the growing of flax. It is generally well watered, and in and around Yankton a number of artesian wells, varying in depth from 300 to 500 feet, have been sunk, producing an abundant flow of generally excellent water. It is more or less impregnated with iron, soda, magnesia, etc., and possesses valuable medicinal qualities.

The natural timber growth is confined mostly to the valley of the Missouri, where it is found in considerable bodies, consisting principally of cottonwood, elm, box-elder, willow and oak.

Within the city limits of Yankton the chalk-like formation of the Cretaceous period outcrops along the Missouri bluffs, and is being considerably utilized for building purposes. Brick clay of very good quality is also
found in various places, and an extensive business in the manufacture of brick is being carried on at Yankton.

A high range of bluffs borders the Missouri River above Yankton, and the James River is flanked on either side by lesser elevations. There are few lakes or marshes in the county.

The Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul Railway traverses the county southeast and northwest, and other prominent lines will no doubt make Yankton an important point in the near future.

The county ranks among the best in southeastern Dakota for general farming and stock raising purposes.

Yankton County, twenty-five years ago, was the nucleus around which centered the exciting scenes of the early settlement of southeastern Dakota, covering the settlements in Dakota, with the exception of those made in the valley of the Red River of the North, were along the Missouri from Running Water to the mouth of the Big Sioux, and in the valley of the latter stream from Sioux Falls southward.

The history of Yankton County is closely interwoven with that of the city of Yankton, which for twenty years was the most prominent place in the territory, and we shall therefore treat of the two together.

We have culled a considerable amount of valuable matter from a small but most excellent and reliable history of the region, compiled by M.K. Armstrong, an early and prominent settler at Yankton.

**EARLY SETTLEMENT.**

The first white person to make a permanent location within the limits of Yankton County, is believed to have been Major W.P. Lyman, who established a government ferry on the Dakota River, about six miles east of the site of Yankton, in May, 1857. This ferry was on the route of travel between the Iowa settlements on the Missouri River and Fort Randall above Yankton.

Before the establishment of this ferry, the government express followed the old military trail between Sioux City and Fort Randall along the river bluffs, crossing the Dakota River several miles north of the site of Yankton, at what is known as the rapids, where the river was fordable. This express was carried once a week by A.C. Vanmeter, usually on a horse or mule and leading a pack animal. Upon the establishment of the ferry the Government mail, express and trains took the new route.
The first actual settler, where the city of Yankton was afterward laid out, according to the most reliable information, was George D. Fiske, who pitched his tent some time in March, 1858. He came as the agent of Messrs. Frost, Todd & Co., post sutlers at Fort Randall, who had assigned him to this location as their resident agent and trader, to conduct mercantile business with the Indians and whatever whites might settle around the station.

Permanent trading houses were built for the firm in June, 1858, by Major Dyman, at Yankton, on Smutty Bear's camping ground, nine miles above Yankton, and on the Dakota River below. Mr. Armstrong relates that in the trading house at Yankton which stood near the river, there were sixteen red cedar logs which had been floated down in the form of a raft from Fort Pierre, more than 200 miles above, by Mr. P. Dupuis.

At this time, Charles F. Picotte, a half breed, born in Dakota about 1830, had a claim of 640 acres covering part of the present town site of Yankton, lying mostly in Section 18, Town 93 north, Range 55 west. He understood and spoke both the Sioux and English languages, and became very useful as an interpreter, his services being often in demand. He is still a resident of the valley, being located at the agency of the Yanktonais band, forty miles above Yankton. The trading house was put up on his claim, and he resided with Mr. Fiske for a considerable time.

Picotte was granted 640 acres of land at the time of the Yankton treaty. He sold most of the tract to various individuals, but still owns several lots and buildings in Yankton. Captain J.B.S. Todd was also granted a tract of 160 acres, lying west of and adjoining Picotte's. Both grants were made as compensation for important military and other services.

Probably the next comers into the county were Enos Stutsman, J.S. Presho and E. Chapel, sometime in the autumn of 1858. These gentlemen were connected with the firm of Frost, Todd & Co., and occupied the trading house for a considerable time. About the same time, James M. Stone and David Fisher came into the county and stopped for a time at the trading house built at the crossing of the Dakota River. These last named gentlemen made the first claims in the county outside the town site of Yankton.

In February, 1858, a number of capitalists formed what was known as the
Upper Missouri Land Company. Among them were Captain Todd, Judge Hubbard, Dr. Cook, Dr. Yeomans and Enos Stutsman.

Early in 1859, when it became generally known that the Indians had ceded a portion of their lands in southeastern Dakota, settlers began to come in increasing numbers, and by July the influx was very great. The first families to settle in the county were those of John Stanage, Felix Le Blanc, Thomas Frek and Henry Arend, who all made claims and opened farms along the Dakota River.

The first land broken by the white man's plow in Yankton County was in June, 1859, on the claims of Captain Todd, C.F. Picotte, L.M. Griffith and F. Dupuis.

Soon after the removal of the Indians to their reservation, the Upper Missouri Land Company was dissolved, and a new one, called the Yankton Land and Town Company was formed. In August, of the last named year, the town plat of Yankton was surveyed and laid out under the auspices of the old land company, of which Enos Stutsman was secretary, by John P. Culver, a surveyor of Sioux City, Iowa.

The Yankton Claim Club was organized in the fall of 1859. A constitution and by-laws were adopted, and the members pledged themselves to stand by each other in a mutual defense of their claims, in case of litigation or other difficulty.

On the 12th of October, 1859, M.K. Armstrong, George Krafft and William Thompson entered the Territory by way of Sioux Falls, with an ox team, and encamped on the Dakota (James) River, near Yankton, at a point where John Stanage was erecting a ferry house. Mrs. Stanage was then the only white woman in the county east of the Dakota River. Mr. Armstrong, in speaking of the early settlements, remembered the following as residents of the valley at that time: John LaFevre, L.G. Bourret, John Stanage, J.M. Stone, F. Johnson, M. Minde, C. Hanson, J. Allseth, John Betz, Henry Arend, Thomas Frek, William Newman and John Cloud. Along the old Government trail, for fifty miles west of the ferry, at that time there was not a white man's habitation.

Frost had appeared early in September of that year, and prairie fires in the dry grass were of frequent occurrence. On the 16th of the month, a party of soldiers traveling over the road with an ox team was caught in a prairie fire and two of the men lost their lives.
These fires destroyed a large amount of hay and other property, one party, the Johnson brothers, losing ninety tons of hay in stacks. The ferry house of J.M. Stone was in imminent danger, but was saved by the Indian women encamped near by, who whipped the fire out with wet blankets.

Armstrong gives a laughable account of the blowing down of the tent of his party in the night during a heavy wind. The ridge pole fell upon William Thompson, striking him on the head and rousing him from sound sleep. He jumped from his couch, and with a wild yell, ran madly toward the river, supposing that the camp was attacked by Indians, and that his head had been split open with a tomahawk.

At that time Yankton was known as "Strike the Ree's Camp," from the fact that the well known chief of the Yanktonais, "The man that was struck by the Ree," with his band, was encamped there. It then contained two log cabins, the trading house of Frost, Todd & Co., and the dwellings of C.F. Picotte. The trading house was in charge of Frank Chapel. D.T. Bramble had a store building partly completed, and he was then in Sioux City purchasing goods.

The pioneer land owners in and around Yankton were C.F. Picotte, Captain Todd, G.D. Fiske, Obed Foote, F. Chapel, J.S. Presho, William Wonderbaugh, James Witherspoon, David Fisher, O B. Wheeler, George Pike, L.M. Griffith and William Houston, later known as the "Old Yankee."

At Smutty Bear's Camp, nine miles above Yankton, there was a trading house in charge of Major Lyman, and and there were living with him Samuel Mortimer, Samuel Jerou and A.B. Smith. The total population of Yankton County at that period numbered thirty-six white persons—twenty-seven men, four women and five children.

On the 8th of November, 1859, a meeting, called for the purpose of petitioning Congress for a Territorial organization, was held in Bramble's unfinished store. D.T. Bramble was chairman, and N.K. Armstrong, secretary of the meeting. Captain J.B.S. Todd, Obed Foote and Thomas Frek were appointed a committee to draft resolutions. General C.M. Frost, of St. Louis, a stockholder in the Yankton Land Company, was present and addressed the meeting. Captain Todd, G.D. Fiske and J.M. Stone were appointed a committee to draw up a memorial to Congress.
Captain Todd erected a small law office in the winter of 1859. About the same time, the log tavern of H.C. Ash was completed, and on Christmas day, 1859, his family arrived and took possession. Their first night in Yankton was passed in the old ranch near the river. Mrs. Ash was the first resident white woman in Yankton.

During the same winter, Thomas Fink and Henry Arend put up the walls of the fourth dwelling in Yankton. The river was closed by ice on the 6th of December.

In February, 1860, D.W. Reynolds came with his family from Nebraska, his wife being the second white woman in the place.

About thirty claim holders were scattered over the county, keeping "bachelor's hall."

Messrs. Fiske, Thompson, Pike and Armstrong encamped in the timber on the river bottom, about four miles below Yankton for the winter. They had a novel sawmill in operation during the winter. It was constructed by projecting two long, parallel timbers over the river bank, on which was placed the log to be sawed, and the feat of cutting it into rough lumber was accomplished by two men, one standing above, the other below, and working a whip-saw. About 5,000 feet of lumber were cut in this way, including the frames of four dwellings.

The greater part of the material for Bramble's store was hauled by teams from North Bend, Neb., thirty-five miles away.

Thirteen lodges of Santee Sioux surrounded the camp in the timber. The Indians were engaged during the winter in hunting and trapping between the Missouri and Dakota rivers.

The pioneer cabins of those days were built mostly of logs or sods, with sod roofs and dirt floors. One settler on the Dakota River wintered in an underground house, roofed over four logs above the ground. The entrance was down a broad stairway cut in the ground.

In the month of December, 1859, Michael Fisher, from Pennsylvania, came into the county via Sioux City, traveling from the latter place on foot to Yankton, in the midst of the worst storm of the season.

During the same winter, Judge J.R. Hanson came over from Nebraska, where he had resided for about a year, and erected a house on his land lying northeast of Yankton.

The first jury trial in the county was held at Bramble's store, March
31, 1860, under the management of the Yankton Land and Town Company, to settle title to a disputed claim between George Gilmore and Major Lyman. The jury was composed of D. W. Reynolds, J. S. Presho, L. M. Griffith, D. W. Whitmer, Robert Crippen and P. Dupuis. J. R. Hanson, H. T. Bailey, C. F. Picotte, S. Whitmer and James Falkenburg were witnesses, and the suit was decided in favor of Major Lyman.

In April, 1860, the family of Obed Foote arrived at Yankton and took quarters for a time in the law office of Captain Todd.

In May, the family of J. M. Stone arrived from Ohio, and found lodgment during the summer at the ferry house on the Dakota River.

On the 26th of the same month, what was known as the "mountain fleet," comprising the steamers Key West, Spread Eagle and Chippewa, arrived at Yankton from below.

At some period during the preceding winter, a party, consisting of Helge Anderson, Holver Brynnelson, Colber Olson and Ole Samson, crossed the river from Nebraska, and settled in the oak timber opposite St. Helena, below the mouth of the Dakota River.

The first social party in the county was given July 4, 1860, at the house of Mrs. Foote. Music was furnished by Messrs. Wheeler and Stone, with flute and violin. A number of ladies from Nebraska were present, and also a few passengers from the steamer Twilight, lying at the landing.

The first religious discourse was delivered by Rev. C. D. Martin, in February, 1859. Rev. Melancthon Hoyt, of the Episcopal Church, and S. W. Ingham, held semi-monthly services in the law office of Captain Todd, then occupied by Enos Stutsman. William Huston, the "Old Yankee," also occasionally delivered a discourse on the "uncertainty of life in a land of Indians and vipers," and William Marslin, a Hebrew, preached on the great sin, under the Mosaic law, of "eating pork at twenty cents per pound."

A post-office was first established at Yankton in the summer of 1860, and D. T. Bramble was the first post-master. Previous to this the mail for Yankton had been left at the ferry on the Dakota River.

The migration to the county during the year 1860 was very light. In July, T. A. McLeese and family, from the Yanktonnais agency, located in Yankton, and in October Henry Bradley, from Fort Randall, and J. B. Greenway,
from Sioux Falls, with their families, settled on the Dakota River below Yankton.

In the fall of 1860, there were eleven families and a considerable number of bachelors settled in the county. During the season of 1860, nine steamers arrived at the landing.

In the fall of 1860, the United States surveyors, Ball and Darling, ran the exterior lines of the two tiers of townships lying along the Missouri River from the mouth of the Big Sioux to the Yankton agency. They also subdivided into sections the two fractional townships in which the city of Yankton is situated.

The settlers were so anxious to know where the lines were to be, that, while the surveyors were busy running township lines, they traced many of the section lines and chained them south to the river, and from these approximate lines blocked out their respective claims. The "squatter" boundaries were changed by the regular survey about three chains north and four chains west of their original location. The west line of Town 93 north, Range 55 west, passed along the west side of Broadway, in Yankton, and the east line passed through the ferry-house of John Stanage, six miles below, on the Dakota River.

The Missouri River was very low in the fall of 1860, and on the 21st of October the steamer Florence, from below, was obliged to land her cargo of freight for Yankton four miles below the place, and return to St. Louis.

The only buildings erected in Yankton, in 1860, were the dwellings of McLeese and Patterson, put up in the fall. The river closed with ice on the 26th of November.

The following winter was long and severe. On the 10th of February, 1861, George D. Fiske, the first white settler, perished in a terrible storm, within a half-mile of the town. This was the first death in Yankton, and it cast a deep gloom over the community. There being no clergyman in the place, the funeral obsequies were conducted by his immediate friends.

On the 13th of March, 1861, news of the approval of the bill granting Territorial organization to Dakota was received in Yankton, and caused great rejoicing.

The first steamer from below in the spring of 1861, the Omaha, arrived at Yankton on the 21st of April.
On the 6th of June, 1861, the first number of the Weekly Dakotaiian (now the Press and Dakotaiian) was issued by Messrs. Ziebach & Freney for the Dakotaiian Company. This paper, under different ownerships, has continued to the present day, and is one of the best known, most widely circulated and among the ablest papers that have sprung into existence in the Territory. It was the first permanent journal issued in Dakota.

Among the prominent settlers of 1861 was Major Demmitt, whose first visit to Dakota was in 1857, when he came into the Territory via Lake Benton, Minn., with an exploring party. The Major spent two seasons in the Territory, mostly between the Big Sioux and Missouri rivers. The party first reached the Missouri at old Fort Lookout. He recollects seeing herds of buffalo in the vicinity of Sioux Falls in 1857. He was engaged in the Indian trade for fourteen years, and visited all parts of northern and central Dakota. The Major is living a quiet life at Yankton, where he settled in 1861.

Yankton had been designated as the Territorial capital, and in June the advance of the Territorial officers, Newton Edmunds, chief clerk in the Surveyor General's office, arrived and opened an office in Bramble's building. Governor Jayne also arrived about the same time and opened the executive office in a log building opposite Ash's tavern.

M.K. Armstrong was appointed Justice of the Peace, and L.M. Griffith, Constable. J.D. Morse and Obed Foote were appointed to take the first census of Yankton County, which showed 278 white inhabitants.

In August, the steamer Morrow, with Indian annuities on board, was snagged, and sank near the southeastern corner of the county, and the Yankton home guards were ordered out to protect the boat and cargo.

At the first general election in September, eighty-six votes were cast for delegate in Congress—eighty-five for Captain Todd and one for C.P. Booge. The judges of this election for Yankton were Frank Chapel, J.S. Presso and M.K. Armstrong.

Yankton improved slowly. During the summer of 1861, W.N. Collamer, A. Robarre and William Burdeno erected three buildings on the west side of Broadway.

In the winter of 1861-2, company A, Dakota cavalry, was recruited at Yankton as an infantry company for the United States service, but the order
was subsequently changed, and it was ordered mounted for frontier service in Dakota. Twenty-three men enlisted in this company from Yankton County.

In March, 1862, there was a great flood in the Missouri River. An immense ice gorge formed below the mouth of the Dakota River, and the backwater overflowed the wide bottoms on both sides of the river from Yankton to the Big Sioux River. In places the sheet of water was like a vast lake, twelve miles in width, reaching from the Nebraska bluffs to Turkey Ridge in Dakota.

Every settler on these bottoms, with family and herds, was compelled to fly to the higher lands for safety. People traveled in row boats at will over the whole region lying between Sioux City and Yankton. Greenway's landing on the Dakota River was changed a mile and a half during the continuance of high water, a period of three weeks. The Indians said it was the highest rise in nineteen years.

The first Legislature for the Territory convened under the Governor's call at Yankton, on the 17th of March, 1862. The council met in one building and the house in another. At this session Yankton was made the permanent capital of the Territory. The session, according to the executive record, was anything but a harmonious one, the excitement and turbulence among the members becoming at times so serious that the governor finally ordered twenty armed soldiers, à la Cromwell, to be placed on duty to preserve the peace.

At this session a bill was passed establishing, among others, the county of Yankton, with its present boundaries, and the following officers were appointed by the Governor and confirmed by the Council: Register of Deeds, William Burdene; Sheriff, William Miner; County Commissioners, O.B. Wheeler, Justus Townsend and Henry Bradley; Probate Judge, J.R. Hanson; County Surveyor, J.M. Stone; Justices of the Peace, Charles S. White and J.S. Presho.

On the 1st of September, 1862, was held the second general election and the first for county officers. N.K. Armstrong was elected to the Legislature, and the following county officers were chosen: Register of Deeds, William Miner; Sheriff, C. Rossteaucher; Commissioners, Otis Wheeler, N.W. Berge, and D.C. Higby; Justices, Samuel Grant and J.S. Presho; County Attorney, G.N. Proper; County Surveyor, J.M. Stone; Probate Judge, J.M. Stone; Coroner, J.M. Wetherspoon; Constable, A.D. Fisher.
Simultaneously with the election came the news of the Indian outbreak and the terrible massacres of whites in Minnesota, which was followed by a frightful panic and a stampede among the settlers, who nearly all fled to Iowa.

The Governor issued a proclamation calling out the militia of the Territory. Strong fortifications were thrown up in Yankton around the block now occupied by the Merchants' hotel, and including several acres of ground. Men were constantly drilling and a strong guard was placed around the town every night.

F.M. Ziebach was captain of the Yankton company; David Fisher, first lieutenant, and John Lawrence (now of the Black Hills), second lieutenant. Rumors of horrid massacres and a great rising of all the tribes of the Dakota nation filled the air. Yankton was full of fugitives. Women even carried muskets and revolvers, and all was excitement and preparation for the apparently inevitable conflict in which the people must successfully defend their lives and property, or perish amid the smouldering ruins of their homes. Forty men of the Dakota cavalry under Captain Miner were quartered within the stockade, and there is no doubt that the savages would have met with a warm reception had they attacked the place.

But thanks to the friendship of "Strike the Ree," head chief of the Yankton bands, the danger was arrested and the ominous and threatening war-cloud passed away. The Yankton chief placed himself and his band of warriors between the hostiles and the whites and said, "Thus far shalt thou come, but no farther." The war soon terminated, and the settlers of Yankton County returned to their abandoned farms, upon which they have not since been disturbed by Indian outbreaks.

Yankton County has gradually filled with a fine, intelligent and industrious class of settlers, who have improved a large share of the lands, built comfortable homes, opened wagon roads, and gathered around them the comforts, conveniences and luxuries of older communities. Schools and churches abound, and the people of the county are, as a rule, prosperous.

There are thirteen post-offices in the county, to wit: Yankton, Gayville, La Grange, Lakeport, Zizkov, Utica, Lesterville, Sigel, Norway, Janesville, Mayfield, Walshton and Mariendahl. Three of these, Gayville,
Utica and Lesterville, are considerable stations on the railway.

A large number of roads have been laid out, and several substantial bridges constructed, and the county is in a good state of improvement in these particulars.

The present county officers are: Commissioners, A.W. Lavender, W H. Edmunds, Anton Peifer, C.E. Brooks, G. Edgerton; Judge of Probate, L. Congleton; Sheriff, Patrick Brunen; Coroner, Dr. F. Etter; Treasurer, Joseph Peir; Superintendent of Schools, T.S. Dickson; Surveyor, E.H. Van Antwerp; Assessor, John O Aaseth; County Justices, William H. Bramer, Ole Keeldseth, A.J. Faulk, W.W. Eastman.

The court-house in Yankton is substantially built of brick and cost about $12,000. It is two stories in height, with a commodious basement, and contains the various court-rooms and county offices, with a county jail, under one roof.

The town of YANKTON was chartered as a City, January 9, 1869. The first charter election was held on the first Monday in April following. The committee chosen to conduct the election was composed of G.W. Kingsbury, William Miner and James S. Foster. The first Mayor was William N. Collamer: The first Board of Aldermen was composed of Newton Edmunds, Henry C. Ash, J.R. Bunker; Clerk, James E. Foster; City Marshal, George Smith; Treasurer, M.K. Armstrong.

The city is mostly located on a beautiful plateau, with a soil of sandy loam, elevated high and dry above floodmark, and surrounded on the west and north by a low range of gently sloping bluffs, which rise from fifty to eighty feet above the town. A small but permanent stream, made largely from springs and known as "The Rhine," meanders through the town and discharges into the Missouri River near the corporation limits. A portion of the site is situated on the lower level or first bottom of the Missouri, and in times of remarkable floods is over-flowed. The business and residence portions, and nearly all of the better class of buildings, are on the higher plateau.

The town is laid out on a remarkably liberal plan, the streets varying from 80 to 130 feet in width, and are nearly all handsomely graded and graveled, and adorned and shaded by a thrifty growth of trees, composed of soft maple, box elder and cottonwood, giving the city in the growing season a beautiful and most inviting appearance.
Standing on the bluff by the artesian well in the west part of the city, the view covers a splendid panorama of rolling prairie, broad river bottoms with thick clusters of timber here and there, and a magnificent line of crowning bluffs gradually or abruptly rising from the wide valley below, through which sweeps in many a graceful curve the yellow Missouri, the longest stream upon earth. The location is one of the finest upon the great river, and the beautiful city nestles cosily amid its deep green foliage, the admiration of the stranger and the pride of its people.

SCHOOLS.--The people of Yankton from the first have been noted for their interest in the cause of education. From small private schools, taught in the primitive cabin, or wherever room could be found, they have seen their educational system expand into most encouraging proportions with good and comfortable buildings, furnished in the best manner, filled with hundreds of students, and ranking among the best in the land. The school population of the city is over 1,000. There are a half dozen school buildings, and ten or twelve rooms occupied by the city schools, which are divided into primary, grammar, and one high school. The total enrollment is 800. The annual school tax levy of the city is from $6,000 to $10,000. There is a good school library containing about 1,000 volumes, and more are being added year by year. The city has several fine school buildings, besides one or two leased ones. Those for the primary departments recently erected are models of taste and convenience. The high school and the various grammar schools are in a flourishing condition; and under the direction and instruction of a competent school board, a thorough superintendent and an excellent corps of teachers, all the departments are fully abreast of the best schools in the land. The value of school property in 1883 was about $15,000, and the total expenditures for all purposes for the year were $14,000.

CHURCHES.--In religious matters Yankton ranks with any city of equal population in the land. There are not less than ten church organizations, including Baptist, Catholic, Congregational, Episcopal, German Lutheran, Methodist Episcopal, Norwegian and Russian, all of which have houses of worship, the Russians having three. There are also a number of organizations without edifices, including Universalist, Unitarian and a colored
congregation. Several of the church buildings are fine, roomy structures and not without pretensions to architectural taste and elegance, among which may be named the Episcopal, Congregational, Catholic and Methodist buildings.

The Asylum for the Insane for southern Dakota is located near Yankton on high, commanding ground about two miles north of the city. A commodious building of brick has been erected, sufficient for the wants of the territory, which will be enlarged according to the demand. The United States donated 640 acres of land for the benefit of the institution, and the Territorial Legislature appropriated $40,000 for the erection of suitable buildings.

COLLEGES.—Among the most prominent and important institutes located in the city is the college under the care and patronage of the Congregational Church, though not sectarian in its character. The fine college building of Sioux Falls quartzite, erected in 1883, occupies a beautiful and commanding location at the head of Capitol street about a mile from the river. The land belonging to it consists of twenty-five acres, and a number of city lots, mostly donated by individuals.

This, the first Christian college for Dakota, was established by the general association of Congregational churches and located at Yankton by a vote of the association, at a special meeting held at Canton, May 25, 1891. It was incorporated August 30, of the same year. The corner-stone was laid with proper ceremonies June 15, 1892, 400 children dropping flowers upon it as the procession passed.

The project is greatly indebted to Rev. Joseph Ward, pastor of the Congregational Church in Yankton, for the very efficient manner in which he has superintended the work.

The building is 42 x 73 feet in dimensions, and three stories in height, with a fine tower and belfry. It cost about $25,000, of which the citizens of Yankton contributed $11,000.

The original Board of Trustees consisted of: Hon. Newton Edmunds, Yankton; Hon. J.R. Jackson, Valley Springs; Rev. Lucius Kingsbury, Canton; Ephraim Minor, Yankton; J.R. Sanborn, Yankton; Rev. Charles Secombe, Springfield; Rev. Stewart Sheldon, Yankton; Rev. Joseph Ward, Yankton; E.P. Wilcox, Yankton. Rev. Joseph Ward is President of the Board of Trustees, and also of the faculty.
The Academy has recently been fitted up as a school for Indian boys, of whom a large number are now in attendance. It is under Catholic control. The Catholics also have a parochial school in connection with their church.

The city is well supplied with the various order, societies and lodges usually found in the older towns of the country, including a Women's Christian Temperance Union, a strong and flourishing organization of the Grand Army of the Republic, various lodges, chapters and encampments of the Masonic and Odd Fellows' order, several bands, musical organizations, etc.

An Artesian Well and Mining company was organized in September, 1880, with a capital stock of $10,000, with the privilege of raising to $50,000. The splendid artesian well, situated in the bluff west of the city was sunk by this company. It is nearly 500 feet in depth and flows about 50,000 gallons of water in twenty-four hours. It is being utilized for supplying the city with pure water.

As an evidence of the enterprise of the citizens of Yankton, it may be mentioned that a stock company was formed about 1882, exclusively of Yankton capitalists, for the purpose of establishing a telephone system, which was soon in operation, and in a short time had 100 local connections. It was perfected, and made a great success, and the fact became so apparent that a company of eastern capitalists extensively engaged in the business, in the summer of 1883 bought out the Yankton company, which made a handsome profit on its venture.

The Dakota Historical and Literary Association was organized at Yankton, November 10, 1863, with Rev. Melancthon Hoyt, president; Hon. Newton Edmunds and S. Shaw Gregory, vice-presidents; B.M. Smith, secretary; Henry E. Gregory, treasurer, and Enos Stutsman, librarian. On the 1st of January, 1864, the title was changed to Historical Society of Dakota. The society has gathered considerable interesting historical material, and has an extensive field to work over. (See General chapters.)

NEWSPAPERS.—The newspapers of the city are the Press and Dakotaian, daily and weekly; the Dakota Herald, weekly; the Freie Presse, weekly; and the Dakota Outlook, semi-monthly.

The Press and Dakotaian was first issued June 6, 1861, as the Weekly Dakotaian, by F.M. Ziebach, for the Dakotaian Printing Company. It has
changed ownership a number of times, and is at present published by Brown & Kingsbury. The present title was adopted December 4, 1873. The first daily edition was issued April 26, 1875. The paper, daily and weekly, is strongly Republican in its political tendencies, and has an extensive circulation in southern Dakota and northeastern Nebraska. It is ably conducted, and commands a widespread influence which is steadily increasing. It was for many years the official paper of the Territory.

The Dakota Union started in June, 1864, and the Yankton Press, established by the Yankton Press Publishing Company, in August, 1870, were both subsequently consolidated with the Dakota

The Dakota Herald was established by M. Taylor and T.F. Singiser, in February, 1872. A year later, it became the property of Taylor brothers, and in 1879 Maris Taylor became sole proprietor. In September, 1881, T.J. Sargent purchased an interest, and the firm is now Taylor & Sargent. The Herald is strongly but conservatively Democratic, and was for eight or nine years the only organ of the party in Dakota. It is a powerful advocate of Independent statehood, and has a large and influential circulation in the Territory. It is issued weekly and all printed at home.

The Freie Presse was established in 1874, by G.A. Wetter. It is a weekly journal, published in the German language, and claims the largest circulation of any weekly paper published in Dakota. It circulates in Dakota, Nebraska, Montana and Idaho, and is Republican in politics.

The Dakota Outlook was established in February, 1884, by E.C. Johnson. It is issued semi-monthly and ably edited, taking a prominent stand in favor of everything that will advance the interests of Dakota. Already it is wielding an important influence.

The Yankton Post-office is an important one, doing a large and constantly increasing business. Several stage lines center in the city, the principal ones being the line running up the Missouri River through Bon Homme, Springfield, Yanktonnaig, Agency, Fort Randall, White Swan, and thence on to Pierre, Fort Sully, and Bismarck—a part of the way a daily line; and the James River line from Yankton to Mitchell, through Utica, Lesterville, Odessa, Scotland and other points, daily. In all there are five stages and mail lines.

The city contains three banks, with ample capital and growing business; a hundred or more mercantile institutions, several of which do a large
wholesale business; a dozen hotels, and considerable manufacturing, among
which may be named an extensive flouring and custom mill, operated by steam;
a woolen mill, recently put in operation; a pork-packing establishment on a
large scale, recently projected; an extensive book-bindery, a large brick
manufactory, several breweries, a foundry and machine shop, blacksmith and
wagon shops, and probably others of some importance.

There are about twenty practicing attorneys, half as many physicians
and surgeons, a number of real estate dealers and ten or twelve resident
clergymen, of different denominations, in the city.

The United States Land district tributary to the Yankton office
includes the counties of Yankton, Turner, Lincoln, Union, Clay, Bon Homme,
Hutchinson, Douglas and Charles Mix. The officers of the Yankton Land
office are G.A. Wetter, Register, and Jos. G. Chandler. Receiver.

A United States Signal Station, for meteorological observations, was
established at Yankton in 1873, and has become a very important one in the
Missouri valley. Its mean height above sea-level, corner Third and Capitol
streets, is 1,294 feet.

The traffic on the Missouri River, which began with the fur trade in
1830-32 and continued until the railways superseded steamboats, was for
years an important factor in Yankton's commercial prosperity; but it has
gradually moved on up the river, and at this date the river business of the
city is very small. At one time, as many as forty steamers did business at
Yankton.

The present population of Yankton is not far from 4,000. The attempted
removal of the Territorial capital to Bismarck, and the removal of the Sur-
veyor General's office to Huron in 1893, had the temporary effect to check
somewhat the growth and business of the place; but upon a sober second
thought the people concluded that even the loss of the capital, which must
in the nature of things come sooner or later, would prove no serious detri-
ment to the prosperity of the city. It has remarkable natural advantages,
and its citizens are evincing a praiseworthy disposition to make the most
of these by establishing schools, colleges, manufactories and heavy mercan-
tile houses, which shall not only draw hither an extensive trade and bring
about commercial prosperity, but make the city and surroundings a pleasant
and desirable resort for the wealthy and cultivated classes who will build up elegant and tasteful homes for themselves and their children.

Several new lines of railway diverging from Yankton are in contemplation, among them one through Scotland to Chamberlain; one along the east side of the Missouri River to the same point, and one or two to different points in the State of Nebraska.

FLOODS.--No history of the Missouri valley would be complete without some account of the floods that have at times devastated the region; and as the floods are always similar in their movements and results, we append a brief account of the noted one occurring in the Spring of 1881, as experienced at and around Yankton. The facts and much of the descriptive language are from the account published in the Dakota Herald April 2 and 9, 1881:

"For years people have listened to tales of high water in the Missouri River, told by Indians and 'oldest inhabitants'--listened generally with incredulity and sometimes with open mockery. Since 1862, the spring break-up has never been attended with any disaster, save in isolated cases, and it is not to be wondered at that the settlers on the bottoms had been lulled into a false sense of security, and considered the stories handed down in regard to the great inundations of past years as the mere vaporings of chronic exaggerators. But it has been a terrible awakening. The worst stories of the past have been far surpassed by the horrors of the actual present. For ten days the Missouri River valley for hundreds of miles has been covered with a seething torrent of water and ice. Whole towns have been absolutely obliterated, many lives have been lost, property incalculable has been swept away, and hundreds of people but yesterday in comparative affluence are today little else than beggars. It is utterly useless to attempt to describe it as it is, but following will be found a clear, concise and careful statement of the facts so far as the Herald has been able to collect them. News is as yet painfully wanting, but we trust that the horror of the full revelation will not be any considerably greater than that which weighs down our people.

"The river, at this point long watched with fear and trembling, at four o'clock Saturday afternoon, with scarcely a preliminary sign, burst its icy covering, and in a few moments the whole channel was one mass of heaving, groaning, grinding cakes of ice, tossed and tumbled into every conceivable
shape by the resistless current.

"As the ice broke up the river rose with almost incredible rapidity, and in a few moments was nearly bank full. The steamer Western, lying just hurled against her side near the stern, making a hole nearly twenty feet long, through which the water rushed with terrible swiftness, and in spite of the efforts of a large corps of pumpmen, she soon filled and sank. The water began to subside about five o'clock, and the people breathed easier, thinking that the worst was over. However, the upward movement soon commenced again and continued all day Monday, the whole bed of the river being constantly filled with moving ice. Monday afternoon word was received that the whole Jim River bottom below the city was overflowed from bluff to bluff, something never before known. This report was quickly succeeded by another to the effect that many families were completely cut off from escape and in need of assistance. Tuesday morning several boats were sent from the city, which succeeded in rescuing several families. Others were left, and an account of their fate will be found below.

"Many of our citizens on Tuesday took occasion to visit the bluffs, at Major Hanson's place, and the view there presented was truly grand, not to say terrible. As far as the eye could reach was an unbroken volume of water, moving steadily along, bearing on its bosom huge cakes of ice and dotted here and there by half-submerged farm-houses, whose inmates had fled to the hills for safety. Where the mighty current swept across the rail-road track the rails were twisted and dragged long distances by the ice, while telegraph poles, fence posts and small trees were snapped in two like tallow candles. Cattle and horses were floundering and struggling in the flood; every cake of ice was freighted with a passenger-list of small animals, while here and there a skiff, manned with rescuers from Yankton, paddled about from house to house seeking after straggling persons who had been caught by the water. It was a spectacle long to be remembered, and one that a man might pray never to behold again.

"Tuesday evening at five o'clock, the ice which had been sweeping by all day suddenly formed a gorge a few miles below the city, which held firm all night, meanwhile extending itself far up the river toward Springfield. A deathly stillness hung over the bosom of the river as if in omen of the
awful burst of seeming rage that was to follow. Men watched with anxious eyes, fearing the worst. Suddenly, Wednesday morning at 11:30 o'clock, a shudder ran through the vast body of the gorge where great hillocks of ice were piled in solid layers rods in height. The waters gave a mighty roar, like some blood-thirsty giant awakening from troubled sleep, and with a sudden jerk the whole tremendous mass began to rear and crash and tumble as if it knew of its awful power for destruction and was giving way to pranks of diabolical glee. As the millions upon millions of tons of ice matter moved off down the river, the water began to creep up the banks.

"Up, up it came, faster and faster, until it could fairly be seen to crawl up the ascent. Huge cakes of ice went hurtling against the sides of the steamers along the ways, crushing great holes in their hulls, snapping immense hawsers, and precipitating the Black Hills, Helena and Butte into one common jumble. Still it rose, poured over the railroad track, hurling the little ferry-boat, Livingston, clear across it, and even carrying the gigantic Nellie Peck and Penina far upon the bank. It now appeared to rest a moment, and then, with a resistless force and mighty swell, on it came again. From the bottling works down along the river-front to where the water had come out the day before, the torrent poured into the lower part of the city, actually seeming to have a fall of from six inches to a foot directly out of the river. Then ensued a scene that our pencil is inadequate to describe. People ran hither and thither in wild excitement. Household goods were hastily thrown into wagons and removed to places of safety. Shouting, swearing men; weeping women and children; pawing, frightened horses, all combined with the roaring, rushing waves to form a picture to delight the heart of the monarch of Pandemonium. As the waters rose higher and higher, skiffs, yawls and other small craft began to shoot through the streets in lieu of wheeled vehicles. Furniture, clothing and babies were hauled out of the windows and ferried to high ground. Out-houses and movable truck danced around on the surface. Hogs and chickens squealed and squawked, and swam and flew to places of safety. The first to move to what they considered safe ground were chased by the exultant waves and forced to again 'move on.' All through the lower part of the city, everywhere in fact below the bench, roared an angry, surging torrent of yellow water, from one to six feet in depth, literally covered with débris incident to a great flood, all banging, smashing and rolling about
in one common medley. Looking south and east, it was a solid river ten miles wide, rolling a very besom of destruction, cutting a swath of havoc and ruin which cannot be computed. Down the channel of the river swept hay-stacks, water-tanks, live animals and the fragments of fences, houses, etc., which had been swept from, God knows where, up the river. Far over on the Nebraska bottoms could be soon clusters of cattle on every knoll, and as the water rose inch by inch and the ice swept over and crushed them between its ponderous fragments, the struggles of the poor animals could be distinctly seen. Great trees, struck by the jagged chunks, whipped and shook as though jarred by a heavy wind, and finally would be cut clean off and tumbled into the seething hell of waters which roared about them.

"Here and there appeared the roof of a house, and alas, in too many instances that roof held human beings clinging to it in a desperate effort to save themselves from a watery grave. Women and strong men, too, turned away from the awful sight and refused to look upon it. No man ever wants to see the like again."

DESTRUCTION OF GREEN ISLAND.--"It had been apprehended for weeks past that Green Island, just across the river from Yankton, in Nebraska, would suffer in case of high water, and many of the inhabitants had made preparations for it by removing their household goods and stock to high ground. But nobody was prepared for the awful catastrophe which came on Wednesday, and in a few hours swept from existence a busy little town of 150 people, together, it is feared, with several of its residents.

"On Tuesday it was apparent from this shore that the town was entirely surrounded by water, and the few people left in it could be seen busily engaged in removing stock to a high knoll just back of the village, there being some plucky spirits who were evidently determined to stay till the last. Attempts were made to communicate with them, but unavailing. When the gorge broke on Wednesday, those who were watching Green Island soon discovered that the ice was being forced around in the rear of the town from above, and it was not long until it was encompassed on every side by strong and wide currents, across which no living thing could attempt a passage without certain death staring them in the face. A thrill of horror ran through the spectators on this shore, and from that time until the final
collapse, every eye was riveted as if by an awful fascination upon the doomed village.

"Higher and higher crept the environing torrents, and nearer and nearer swept the horrible masses of ice. At last it could be seen, by the aid of glasses, that the water covered the entire town. Borne on the hissing, gurgling breakers, the ice commenced to thunder through the streets and against the houses. The maddened struggles of the cattle and horses, as they floundered about in the icy billows, could be plainly witnessed, but they were soon swept away. The water rose until it appeared as if but little except the upper stories of the buildings were unsubmerged, and at last the village church, a handsome structure with a tall spire, unable to longer withstand the ponderous blows from the huge floes, was seen to leave its foundations, turn half way round, as if to bid a last farewell to its congregation, and then float gracefully off with the current. Its course was distinctly visible until the top of its spire disappeared behind a strip of timber about a mile below the town where it went to pieces. Shortly after another building floated away, and then followed in quick succession five or six others, including the large hotel and schoolhouse. On the roofs of several, persons could be distinguished, but as the buildings were caught in the maelstrom of ice and water, and twisted and tumbled about, the tenants were seen one by one to lose their hold and drop into the waves until not one remained. No words can describe the horror of that terrible sight, as witnessed, by thousands of awe-filled eyes, from Yankton's rooftops. In two hours from the time the first mass of ice crashed into the village, not a house was left standing, save one store, which, being protected by large trees, and lined with brick, still remains, though battered and crushed into a shapeless hovel. The mind of the most imaginative writer of fiction never pictured a destruction more swift, more complete, or more dreadful."

THE STEAMBOATS.--"The damage done to steamboats on all the lines having headquarters at Yankton is almost incalculable. Every boat at, or in the vicinity of Yankton is damaged terribly. The Western is entirely gone--torn into kindling-wood. The Butte is broken square in two in the middle, and is considered a total loss. The Helvetia is twisted like an auger, and jammed full of holes. It is doubtful whether she can be made serviceable again this season. The Black Hills, of the three boats on the ways,
is the least damaged, but even she is badly racked and crushed. The Penina and Nellie Peck were driven high and dry on the bank, where they now lie in a badly shattered condition. The Yankton ferry boat, Livingston, was driven clear across the railroad track, where she now lies. It will require an enormous expenditure to get all these boats repaired and into the channel again. Old steamboatmen say, that in all their experience on the river, they have never known so disastrous a series of losses.

"The people of Yankton never exhibited themselves in a better light than during the terrible experiences of the past week. Every one, so far as our knowledge extends, has exerted himself to relieve the sufferings of the inundated population, and on Wednesday night every house in the upper portion of the city was placed at the disposal of the people fleeing from the waters. Food, clothing and fire were furnished for all, and we believe that there were no cases of actual physical suffering."

Between this issue of the Herald and the next, on the 9th of April, there was a second great gorge of ice, and another and more terrible inundation, which is thus described in the issue of the 9th:

"Terrible as was the inundation described in last week's Herald, it pales before the horrors of the one which deluged the face of the earth for 400 miles up and down the Missouri River during the past week. While more actual loss of life and property may have resulted from the terrible suddenness of the first onslaught of the turbid tide, in the height reached by the water, and in the awful body of ice borne on its current, the second and latest rise completely overshadows the former. The spectacle furnished the sight-seers, from Sunday evening until Wednesday morning, was one constant panorama of continually changing scenes of interest, all blended into a phantasmagoria of awful sublimity and grandeur by the knowledge of the tremendous destruction of property and life that all felt must take place whenever such life and property were located on the valley lands drained by the monstrous and merciless river.

"As stated last week, after the great rise of Wednesday, the 30th ult., which inundated lower Yankton and the Jim River bottoms and swept the town of Green Island out of existence in a few hours, the river fell rapidly back into its banks. Through Thursday, Friday and Saturday it remained with
but little change, although constantly filled with floating ice in greater or lesser quantities. On Sunday morning, however, it commenced to rise rapidly, owing to the gathering of the ice a few miles below the city. The water continued to come steadily up all day, the gorge meanwhile extending itself up the river with amazing swiftness. Towards evening, people living in the lower part of the city, who had moved back after the falling of the first rise, again began to move out; and that their fears were well grounded was proven on Monday morning when the waters again covered all that portion of the city below the bench.

"All day Monday the gorge held firm, with the exception of intervals of a moment or two, when it would groan and heave and move a few rods down the stream, only to become stationary again. The water rose steadily all the time, and the pressure brought to bear on the gorge must have been incalculable. When the tremendous mass would move down the river with one of its semi-occasional jerks, great masses of ice weighing many tons would be forced high in the air and borne along until finally over-ridden by a piece larger than themselves and again forced under. Large trees, a foot or more in diameter, which stood on the side of the bank, on the point just above the city, were submerged by the rising torrent, and finally cut smoothly off and dragged under as if in the tentacles of one of the mighty devil-fish described by Victor Hugo. The whole of Green Island bottom, opposite the city, was again being ground beneath the mighty millstones of ice, heaving and rolling about as if seeking fresh prey on that devastated spot. This was the only place where the ice moved continually on Monday.

"The gorge continued all night Monday and Tuesday, with but little change of features. All this time the streets were literally alive with people. At last, on Tuesday evening at four o'clock, the mighty wall of ice suddenly gathered itself for a last assault, and then with a resounding roar gave way and went tumbling down in one mighty avalanche of destruction, awful to gaze upon, and grand beyond description in its resistless progress. The water fairly leaped up, and in a few moments had reached its highest altitude since the beginning of the flood, forty-one feet above low water mark. Below town the current swept straight out across the bottom, the gorge five miles below the city having not yet broken. The same scenes were enacted as on Wednesday previous. The water rushed through the lower part of the city like a mill-race. Solid cakes of clear blue ice, three
feet thick and of vast circumference, were carried along with amazing swiftness. All that saved the entire lower part of the city from destruction was the fact that the huge bank of ice formed on this side during the first gorge and left by the receding waters, held firm and prevented the immense body of ice in the channel from rushing Yanktonward. As it was, the lower Government warehouse was entirely destroyed, the small one, just below the ways, ditto, while the middle one is but little better than a total toss. E. P. Wilcox's mammoth stock of lumber was entirely lost, with the exception of a small quantity in the sheds on the west side, which escaped the flood. A huge floe struck the corner of Tom Stewart's house, literally tearing the entire end out of it. Nearly every house in the district bounded by Capitol street on the west and Third street on the north, is scarred and battered, and many are damaged materially. Many small houses and barns were carried off bodily.

"The torrent continued to pour out over the bottom between Risling's farm and Kunze's brickyard for about two hours, and fears were entertained that another gorge would be formed there, but about seven o'clock the big gorge in the river below Risling's timber burst, and the terrible stream of ice and water took its first love, the main channel, and the water fell more rapidly than it had risen. By ten o'clock the water was out of the city limits, and by Wednesday morning the streets were again passable.

"A scene of desolation and ruin presented itself. Little but the bare houses and the great masses of ice, tons in a place, remained. Everything movable had been swept away. But looking toward the river bank, where huge mountains of ice reared their heads twenty feet in the air, the people could well afford to be thankful. Had that shore gorge given completely away, and allowed the heaving channel, which watchers say was at times ten feet higher than the shore, to sweep through the city, it is doubtful if a building would have been left standing in the inundated region, or a steamer at the levee.

"Cruel and savage as those awful glaciers appeared, the salvation of lower Yankton resulted from their remaining where they did, and nothing but the fact that the receding of the waters of the first gorge allowed them to settle into the mud of the bar, where they were frozen into a solid
mass from six to twenty feet deep, a mile long, and from twenty to forty
yards wide, prevented them from being driven from their places by the Titanic
strength of Tuesday's rise, and hurled through the streets, plowing a furrow
of destruction sickening to contemplate. Enough ice did break through to
show its power, and the result, if the whole had moved, cannot be doubted.
The fate that was Green Island's would have been lower Yankton's, and where
the loss can now be computed by tens of thousands, it would have reached
Hundreds of thousands.

"The reports brought in from time to time by parties engaged in the
work of rescuing the inhabitants from the bottoms between Yankton and Vermil-
million are of the most harrowing description. A thickly settled valley,
twenty-five miles long and from five to ten miles wide, which two weeks ago
presented a rich and flourishing aspect, dotted closely with cozy and com-
fortable farm-houses, is now nothing but a desert of water and ice, whose
monotony is only broken, here and there, by the roof of some house or the
tops of a grove of trees. The great ice floes are piled in fantastic shapes,
which rival the very Bad Lands for wonderful views, while the air of utter
desolation and woe which hangs over this Gehenna of destroying elements
chills the stoutest heart. Not a foot of this whole tract but was covered
not less than two feet with water. Many of the lighter and less substantial
houses have been carried away, while of the hundreds of barns and sheds, with
their thousands of cattle, horses and hogs, but a very small portion remains.

"It is amid such scenes of sorrow and sadness as these that the crews
of Captain Lavender, S.K. Felton, J.H. Moulton, Erick Iverson, C.H. Bates,
Captain Noble, William Gigey, and many others have been working for a week
past. During that time they have removed nearly three hundred people to the
bluffs, and the work is still going on, many people being yet on the bottoms.

The loss of property by the Green Island disaster was estimated at
$50,000, exclusive of household property, and there was a reported loss of
ten human lives within a radius of a few miles of Yankton. The town of Green
Island has since been rebuilt a mile or more from the old site, on high and
safe ground.

The heaviest losses at Yankton were among the steamers and warehouses;
and in lumber, dwellings, household goods and live stock, the losses were
also considerable. The most serious losses were on the bottoms where build-
ings, live stock and grain were all indiscriminately swept away. Between
Yankton and Vermillion the losses were very great, and at the last-named
town the destruction was enormous. Of this calamity we give an account in
the history of the place.

(Copied from pages 129-132 of Alfred T. Andreas' Historical Atlas of
Dakota, 1884.)

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YANKTON COUNTY.

Area, 337,920 acres. Created April 10, 1862. Organized the same year
by the appointment, by the Governor, of the following commissioners, viz.:

Yankton county is situated in the southeastern part of Dakota, on the
Nebraska boundary line, at the point where the James river adds its volume
to that of the Missouri. The Missouri river washes the southern boundary
of the county its entire length, and the James flows through it, diagonally,
from northwest to southeast. There are several smaller streams in the
county. In the northeastern part there are many small lakes and ponds.
Groves of native timber, consisting principally of cottonwood, elm, box-
elder, willow, and oak, are found in considerable bodies along the bottom
lands, and on the islands of the Missouri river. The course of the James
is fringed with a scattering growth of trees. Although Yankton county lies
in two great river valleys, but a small proportion consists of what is gen-
erally known as "bottom land." The surface is mostly beautiful, rolling
prairie, with now and then a stream of water or a little lake. The Missouri
river bottoms vary in width from one mile to several, and are extremely fer-
tile. The valley of the James averages, perhaps, a mile in width of equally
good land. A high range of bluffs borders the Missouri river above Yankton
city, and the James river is flanked on either side by lesser elevations.
Soil, a deep, loam; strong, warm, and quick; dries easily on the surface,
but holds moisture below; sub-soil, clay. Yankton county is well watered
and thoroughly drained. Quarries of chalk-rock, and deposits of fine, brick
clay are contained within its limits.

Miles of railway in county: Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul railway (Sioux City & Mitchell line) thirty-one miles; stations: Gayville, Yankton, Utica, Lesterville. Chicago & Northwestern railway (Yankton-Centreville line) fourteen miles; stations: Yankton, Volin. Total miles of railroad in county, forty-five miles.

Vacant public lands, none.

BANKS.


NEWSPAPERS.


COUNTY SEAT.

Yankton, on the Missouri river, is the county seat. It has a population of 4,500; five school buildings, valued at $25,000; seven church edifices, valued at $30,000; court-house and jail, valued at $16,000; water-works (artesian) system, valued at $50,000; electric light plant projected; flour-mill; woolen-mill; pressed-brick manufactory; two brick yards; linseed oil-mill; tow mill; two breweries; foundry and machine shops. Total amount invested in manufactories, $500,000. The congregational college, located at Yankton, is described on page 215 of this publication. Assessed valuation city property, 1886, real, $500,000; personal, $150,000. Total, $650,000. For description of the Dakota hospital for the insane, Yankton, see page 231.

OTHER IMPORTANT TOWNS.

Gayville, in the southeast; school building, valued at $1,000;
artesian well; general stores; grain warehouses, etc. Jamesville, on the James river; population, fifty; school building, valued at $750; flour-mill, valued at $6,000; general stores, etc. Lesterville, in the west; population, 200; school building, valued at $600; church organizations; business houses; grain warehouses, hotels, etc.

SCHOOLS. (STATISTICS 1886.)

Number of organized districts, fifty nine; school population, 3,631; number of school-houses in district, sixty-one; number of school-houses built in 1886, nine; average monthly pay of teachers, males, $32.00; females, $30.00; value of all school property $60,515.00; expended for school purposes during the year ending June 30, 1886, $30,412.56; cash remaining in school treasury, June 30, 1886, $4,667.20; par amount of school bonds outstanding June 30, 1886, $22,250.00; average rate of interest paid on bonds, eight per cent; amount of school warrants outstanding June 30, 1886, $341.71.

LIVE STOCK STATISTICS.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Horses</th>
<th>Asses</th>
<th>Cattle</th>
<th>Sheep</th>
<th>Swine</th>
<th>Valuation</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1880</td>
<td>2,952</td>
<td>77</td>
<td>9,737</td>
<td>4,724</td>
<td>5,836</td>
<td>$312,637</td>
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<tr>
<td>1885</td>
<td>3,600</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>13,070</td>
<td>9,180</td>
<td>6,482</td>
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<tr>
<td>1886</td>
<td>4,071</td>
<td>120</td>
<td>15,675</td>
<td>7,008</td>
<td>6,152</td>
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<tr>
<td>1887</td>
<td>4,521</td>
<td>109</td>
<td>15,740</td>
<td>4,960</td>
<td>9,211</td>
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VALUATION STATISTICS.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Acres Real</th>
<th>Estate</th>
<th>Valuation</th>
<th>Town lots</th>
<th>Personal Property valuation</th>
<th>Total assessed valuation of county</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1880</td>
<td>258,547</td>
<td>$1,132,638</td>
<td>$449,465</td>
<td>$1,582,108</td>
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<tr>
<td>1885</td>
<td>258,547</td>
<td>917,720</td>
<td>$661,095</td>
<td>291,299</td>
<td>2,178,751</td>
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<tr>
<td>1886</td>
<td>265,994</td>
<td>972,195</td>
<td>$660,605</td>
<td>300,200</td>
<td>2,242,105</td>
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<tr>
<td>1887</td>
<td>276,249</td>
<td>1,444,235</td>
<td>951,913</td>
<td>349,090</td>
<td>3,144,933</td>
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* 1880, personal property includes live stock.

FARM STATISTICS.

Table showing product of field crops, on farms in county, for years 1880, 1885, and 1887.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Bushels in 1880</th>
<th>Bushels in 1885</th>
<th>Bushels in 1887</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Wheat</td>
<td>76,741</td>
<td>81,349</td>
<td>217,456</td>
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<tr>
<td>Corn</td>
<td>220,953</td>
<td>418,393</td>
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<tr>
<td>Oats</td>
<td>120,644</td>
<td>281,790</td>
<td>484,128</td>
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<tr>
<td>Rye</td>
<td>590</td>
<td>2,071</td>
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<td>Buckwheat</td>
<td>61</td>
<td>391</td>
<td>300</td>
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<tr>
<td>Barley</td>
<td>11,127</td>
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<td>11,822</td>
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<tr>
<td>Flax</td>
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<td>72,513</td>
</tr>
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</table>

MISCELLANEOUS STATISTICS.

Population of bounty, 1870, 2,097; 1880, 8,390; 1885, 9,404. Lands improved, 1880, 47,017 acres; 1885, 144,519 acres. Number of farms, 1880, 879; 1885, 925. Average size of farms, 1880, fifty-four acres; 1885, 156 acres. Average assessed valuation per acre, 1887, $5.23. County indebtedness, 1887, $346,448. Potato crop, 1885, 40,524 bushels. Wool clip, 1885, 50,070 pounds. Dairy and other farm products, 1885: milk, 1,069 gallons; butter, 323,024 pounds; cheese, 4,801 pounds; eggs, 110,397 dozen.

NAME AND POSTOFFICES ADDRESS OF COUNTY OFFICERS IN 1887.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>P.O. Address</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Christian Hage</td>
<td>Yankton</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Herman Ellerman</td>
<td>Yankton</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Frederick Kinkel</td>
<td>Yankton</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>E.G. Edgerton</td>
<td>Yankton</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Leonidas Cougleton</td>
<td>Yankton</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Christian Hameister</td>
<td>Yankton</td>
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<tr>
<td>L.R. French</td>
<td>Yankton</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>N.M. Hills</td>
<td>Yankton</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Edward Palmer</td>
<td>Yankton</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>S.B. Mcglmuphy</td>
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<td>James Donahue</td>
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<tr>
<td>John O. Aseth</td>
<td>Gayville</td>
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<tr>
<td>Anton L. Peiffer</td>
<td>Lakeport</td>
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Commissioners

{Wm. H. Edmunds, (chairman)
Ole Kjeldseth
James Donahue
John O. Aseth
Anton L. Peiffer
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<td>Lakeport</td>
<td>Norway</td>
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(Copied from pages 489-491 in the *Resources of Dakota*, 1887.)

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YANKTON COUNTY

Yankton county was frequently visited by white men long before it was made a permanent place of abode by any one except the Sioux Indians. The earliest authentic accounts of these early explorations are from the journals of Lewis and Clark, and Patrick Glass, a member of their party, written while on their way up the Missouri toward the Pacific coast. Later expeditions by missionaries, traders, and adventurers were frequent, and the Missouri, their main thoroughfare, took them past this county. Later the government trail to Fort Randall crossed the county.

The first white person to make a permanent home in Yankton county is said to have been Major W.P. Lyman, who established a government ferry across the James river at a point now known as Jamesville. Prior to the establishment of this ferry, the government express and mail, carried once a week by A.C. Vanmeter, had followed the old trail from Sioux City to Fort Randall, along the bluffs farther north, but now took the new route by way of the new ferry.

The first actual settler, where the city of Yankton was afterwards laid out, was George D. Fiske, who came there some time in March, 1858. Mr. Fiske was the representative of Frost, Todd & Co., traders and post sutlers at Fort Randall, and who had decided to establish a post at the point which afterwards became Yankton. Permanent trading houses were built for this firm in June of the same year by Major Lyman at Yankton, at Smutty
Bear's camping ground, nine miles above Yankton, and on the James river.

Charles F. Picotte, a half bred who understood both the Sioux and English languages and often served as interpreter, had at this time a claim of 640 acres, covering the east part of the present site of Yankton. This tract was subsequently granted him by the government. A tract of 160 acres, joining Picotte's on the west and now in the heart of the city, was granted Captain J.S.B. Todd for important military and other services rendered. Others who came to Yankton and settled there in 1858 were Emos Stutsman, J.S. Fresho and E. Chapel.

It became generally known early in 1859 that the Indians had ceded a portion of their lands in southeastern Dakota and settlers began to arrive in increasing numbers. Among the first families to settle in the county during this year were those of John Stanage, Felix Le Bland, Thomas Frek, and Henry Arend, who took claims along the James river.

Soon after the removal of the Indians to their reservation in Charles Mix county, the Upper Missouri Land Company, which had been formed the year before and had laid out the town of Yankton in August, 1859, was dissolved, and the Yankton Land and Town Company formed. In the fall of 1859 the Yankton Claim Club was formed for mutual defense against claim jumpers.

In October, 1859, Moses K. Armstrong, afterwards territorial governor, George Kraft and William Thompson arrived by way of Sioux Falls with an ox team, encamping on the James river, where John Stanage was building a ferry house. Mrs. Stanage was then the only white woman in the county east of the James. Others who had arrived and settled at various points in the valley near Yankton were John La Fevre, L.G. Bourret, J.M. Stone, F. Johnson, M. Minde, C. Hanson, J. Allseth, John Betz, William Newman, and John Cloud. In the fall of this year, an early frost having killed and dried the grass, a destructive prairie fire swept over the county, in which much property was burned and two soldiers, who were traveling with an ox team, lost their lives.

At this time Yankton was known as "Strike the Ree's Camp," so named from the fact that "The-man-that-was-struck-by-the-Ree," a well known chief of the Yankonnais, and his band were encamped there. The town then contained two log cabins, the trading house of Frost, Todd & Co., the dwelling of Charles F. Picotte, and D.T. Bramble's store building. Frank Chapel was in charge of the trading house. The pioneer land owners in and near Yankton
were Charles F. Picotte, J.S.B. Todd, George D. Fiske, Obed Foote, Frank Chapel, J.S. Presho, William Wordenbaugh, James Witherspoon, David Fisher, O.B. Wheeler, George Pike, L.M. Griffith and William Houston. The trading house at Smitty Bear's Camp, nine miles above Yankton, was in charge of Major W.P. Lyman. Living with him were Samuel Mortimer, Samuel Jerou and A.B. Smith. The total population of Yankton county at that time numbered thirty-six white persons—twenty-seven men, four women and five children.

On the 8th of November, 1859, a meeting was called for the purpose of petitioning congress for territorial government. The meeting, held in D.T. Bramble's unfinished store, was presided over by that gentleman, while M.K. Armstrong served as secretary. J.S.B. Todd, Obed Foote and Thomas Frek were appointed to draft resolutions, and Captain Todd, G.D. Fiske and J.M. Stone were selected to draw up a memorial to congress. This was the first move toward local self-government.

Captain Todd had built a small law office late in the fall of 1859, and about the same time H.C. Ash had completed his log tavern, and his family arrived and took possession Christmas day. Mrs. Ash was the first white woman to settle in Yankton. The following February, D.W. Reynolds and family arrived from Nebraska. Others who came early in 1860 were Major J.R. Hanson and the families of Obed Foote and J.M. Stone. The cabins at this time were mostly built of logs and sod, with dirt floors and sod roofs. Lumber for the store buildings was hauled from North Bend, Nebraska. Some lumber was manufactured during the winter four miles below Yankton by a party consisting of Fiske, Thompson, Pike and Armstrong, whose only tools were axes and hand saws. During the winter or early spring, Helge Anderson, Halvor Brynneisen, Colber Olson, and Ole Samson had come over from Nebraska and settled near the Missouri in the timber below the James river. From this time on, river steamers began to stop at Yankton on their way up the river, and this place became one of the most important stations for that class of traffic.

The first religious discourse in the county was delivered at Yankton in February, 1859, by Rev. C.D. Martin. Rev. Melancthon Hoyt of the Episcopal church and S.W. Ingraham held occasional services in Captain Todd's law office. Yankton post office was established in the summer of 1860,
with D. T. Bramble as the first postmaster.

The influx of settlers during the year of 1860 was small. Probably a dozen men with families arrived and several to hold their claims. In the fall of 1860 the south part of Yankton county was surveyed into townships, and the two fractional townships at Yankton were subdivided. The township lines enabled the "squatters" to determine the lines of their claims approximately.

The following winter was long and severe. George D. Fiske, the first white settler, lost his life in a terrible storm half a mile from Yankton on Feb. 10, 1861. This, the first death in the settlement, caused a deep gloom to fall over the community.

The first number of the Weekly Dakotaian, afterwards the Press and Dakotaian, was issued June 6th, 1861, by Ziebach & Freney for the Dakotaian Company. This is one of the oldest papers in the state and has regularly appeared up to the present time.

News of the approval of the bill granting territorial government to Dakota reached Yankton March 13, 1861. Yankton was made the capital of the territory, and in June Newton Edmunds, chief clerk in the surveyor general's office, arrived and opened an office in Bramble's store. Governor Jayne had arrived some time before and opened the executive office in a log cabin opposite Ash's tavern. M.K. Armstrong was appointed justice of the peace and L.M. Griffith constable. J.D. Morse and Obed Foote were appointed to take the first census of Yankton county, which showed 278 white inhabitants. The first general election was held in September, 1861. Eighty-six votes were cast for delegate in congress, eighty-five for Captain Todd, and one for C.P. Booge.

Only a small number of new settlers came into the county during the year 1861 and the following two or three years. The unsettled conditions during the civil war, Indian scares and other causes were not conducive to the development of what was then practically a wilderness. In the winter of 1861–2, Company A, Dakota Cavalry, was recruited at Yankton as an infantry company for the United States service, but was later ordered mounted for the frontier service in Dakota. Twenty-three men enlisted in this company from Yankton county. F.M. Ziebach was made captain, with David Fisher first lieutenant and John Lawrence second lieutenant.

In March, 1862, an immense ice gorge formed in the Missouri below the
mouth of the James river, and the flood of backwater overflowed the entire flood plain of the Missouri from Yankton to the Big Sioux river, forming a vast lake fifteen miles wide in places. The inhabitants of the bottom were obliged to flee to higher ground for safety. This was the worst flood the county has ever known, with the exception of a similar flood nineteen years later.

The first territorial legislature convened at Yankton, March 17, 1862. At that session Yankton was made the permanent capital. At the same time the county of Yankton was established, and the following officers appointed by the governor: Commissioners, O.B. Wheeler, Justus Townsend, and Henry Bradley; register of deeds, William Burdeno; sheriff, William Miner; probate judge, J.R. Hanson; county surveyor, J.M. Stone; justices of the peace, Charles S. White and J.S. Presho.

The second general election and the first election for county officers was held September 1st, 1862. Simultaneously with the election came the news of the Indian outbreak and terrible massacres in Minnesota. Everyone was thrown into a panic and the greater number of the settlers stampeded for Iowa in the wildest confusion. The governor issued a proclamation calling out the militia of the territory, and strong fortifications were thrown up in Yankton around the block now occupied by the Merchants Hotel. This temporary fort was defended by forty men of the Dakota Cavalry under Captain Nelson Miner. Men were constantly drilling and a strong guard was placed around the town every night. The most terrifying rumors of massacres and of the uprising of all the tribes of the Dakota nation filled the air. Yankton was full of refugees from the country, and even the women carried muskets and revolvers. The prairies were entirely depopulated and the wildest excitement prevailed in the preparation for the conflict with the savages, which seemed inevitable. But thanks to the friendship of "Strike the Ree," the chief of the Yankton bands of Indians, the danger was averted and the ominous war cloud passed away. The Yankton chief placed himself and his band of warriors between the hostile Indians and the whites and prevented the clash that seemed sure to come. The war soon ended and the settlers of Yankton county returned to the farms they had abandoned.

From this time on Yankton county began gradually to fill up with
settlers, first along the Missouri and James rivers and later all over the county. A large percentage of the early settlers were Norwegians and Danes, while the German and other nationalities were represented. Probably a majority of the settlers who came to secure farms were from the states further east.

The insane asylum was located in Yankton at an early day by the legislature, but it was not until much later that buildings were begun. The buildings have been erected from time to time as necessity has required and the state finances permitted, until the present commodious quarters for these unfortunate are the result.

From the time of the civil war the history of the county is one of steady progress and development. In January, 1869, Yankton was incorporated as a city under a special charter, with William N. Collamer as its first mayor. Schools had been established in Yankton and in many parts of the county soon after the first settlements had been made.

Up to the early 70's nearly all the freight shipped to and from Yankton was by river steamers. Yankton had become an important point for such traffic, and to this business it owed much of its prosperity. A large number of steamboats plied the river, and many of their owners made Yankton their home. The river men had left a deep impression on this city, one of the reminders of which are the numerous "commodores" met there. As the county became well settled, and the population increased, the need of railway facilities began to be felt, and railroad building was agitated.

Accordingly the Dakota Southern railroad was organized and chartered in 1871. Its principal officers and board of directors were: J.M. Stone, president; J.R. Hanson, secretary; W.W. Brookings, Newton Edmunds, D.T. Bramble, George Whitmore, and W.A. Burleigh. Construction was begun at Sioux City in 1872, and the first trains reached Yankton some time in 1873. An effort was made to secure bonds from the counties through which the road passed as a bonus. Such bonds were voted in Union and Yankton counties. An attempt was made some years later on the part of Yankton county to repudiate these bonds, on which no interest had been paid, on the grounds of irregularities and fraud. The controversy was fought in the courts for years. It is related that for several years the holders of the bonds were unable to secure service of legal papers on the county commissioners, which was necessary in order to force a tax levy for payment of interest. The
commissioners had resigned in a body, and whenever public business was to
be transacted the remaining county officers appointed new commissioners in
secret, who met and transacted the necessary public business, and then
resigned before their appointment had become publicly known. These methods
continued until the people were ready to settle the debt. The matter was
finally compromised and new bonds issued in settlement to the amount of
over four hundred thousand dollars, more than twice the original amount.
In 1879 this railroad was extended westward through the county, and Lesterville
laid out on its line. The Dakota Southern was sold in 1881 to the
Chicago, Milwaukee and St. Paul Railway Company. The Chicago and North-
western built its railroad into Yankton in 1885. Volin and Mission Hill
were founded as towns the same year. The Great Northern entered Yankton
and Yankton county in 1893, and Irene, lying partly in Yankton county, was
laid out and became a considerable town at the same time.

The first college in the state was established by the general Asso-
ciation of Congregational Churches and located at Yankton by a vote of the
association at a special meeting held at Canton, May 25, 1881. It was
incorporated August 30 of that year. The corner stone was laid with appro-
priate ceremonies, June 15, 1882, and the first college building built and
completed in 1883. The struggles of the infant college during the first
years of its existence were hard and many, but due largely to the unflag-
ging zeal, the large hopes, long foresight and and tireless devotion of
Rev. Joseph Ward, the pastor of the Congregational church at Yankton, and,
until his death, president of the college, these obstacles were surmounted,
and for the past decade this college has far surpassed every other denomina-
tional college in the state in efficiency, equipment and number of students,
even rivaling the state educational institutions.

The surveyor general's office was removed from Yankton to Huron in
1883, and some time later the local land office was consolidated with that
at Mitchell. During the same year the capital of the territory was removed
from Yankton to Bismarck.

The first serious attention given to the sinking of artesian wells in
the county was the organization of a company for that purpose in 1880.
Several large wells were sunk soon after. One large well was used for mill
power for some time, but the diminished flow and pressure have caused its discontinuance for that purpose.

The population of Yankton county gradually increased from 278 in 1861 to 10,444 in 1890 and 12,649 in 1900. The most rapid increase from incoming settlers occurred during the last years of the 60's and first years of the 70's, when practically all the government land in the county had been taken. The scourge of grasshoppers which afflicted Yankton county in common with the rest of the state in 1875 and for a couple of years subsequent to that date, retarded its development to some extent, but the county also shared in the general boom from about 1878 to 1885. The city of Yankton had attained its greatest importance in the state in the early 80's, having attained a population nearly as large as at present. The removal of the capital and federal offices tended to check its growth for some time and materially depreciated the value of property; but later improvements and industries, among which is the manufacture of Portland cement, which was begun in 1890, have placed the city on a firmer basis than before. Among the latest Yankton enterprises is the Masonic Temple, dedicated in 1903, which is the finest building of its kind in the state.

In the spring of 1881 occurred Yankton county's most destructive flood. The Dakota Herald of April 2 and 7 of that year contains a graphic description of this disaster. Warm weather early in the spring had melted the heavy snows of the preceding winter in the mountains and at up-river points, which was followed by unusually cold weather. The river broke up farther north, while toward Yankton and farther down stream the ice was solid. This caused an immense ice gorge to form from far above Yankton almost to Sioux City, which was made more solid by the low temperature. The entire bottom of the Missouri was flooded, and even parts of Yankton were submerged. The little town of Green Island, opposite Yankton, was swept out of existence. In Yankton the damage sustained by the wrecking of steamers, warehouses, and by residents in the destruction of household goods was great, and the damage done to the farms on the bottom lands in loss of stock, buildings, machinery and other paraphernalia was enormous.

During the present year (1903) Yankton county has selected a new site for its court house and let the contract for what is said will be one of the finest structures of its kind in the state.
YANKTON COUNTY

Yankton County teemed with political activity from 1861 to 1883, during which time the Territorial Legislature met at Yankton, and much of the state's history is bound inexorably to that of Yankton. The first settlers built log cabins at Yankton as early as 1858, and the next year the town was surveyed. In 1861 the first legislature, called the "Pony Congress" met in a private residence, and that same year the "Weekly Dakotan," which has since become a daily, appeared.

The county was not settled until after 1859 because the Yankton Sioux Indians protested against being moved to reservations. The county was created and organized in 1862 with Yankton the county seat.

In 1879 the State Insane Hospital was started, and now it has grown into a $1,500,000 institution. Yankton College, oldest college in the state, was founded in 1881, and until Missouri River traffic declined, Yankton had a tremendous commercial business. It still caters to a large section of northern Nebraska, the connecting artery being the Meridian Highway bridge. Yankton today is a city of 6,759, its many beautiful homes attesting to the prosperity of the town and its trade territory.

Lesterville was founded in 1881 and first called Moscow by Russian settlers. It is a town of 222 persons now. Each farming region is concentrated around a small trade center, such as Mission Hill, Volin, Gayville, Utica, and Neckling.

At the time of statehood the county had a population of about 10,000; today it has 17,025 residents in its 523 square mile area.

Yankton County excels in its production of nearly everything pertaining to agriculture. It is in an area that annually received abundant rainfall, and corn, small grain, fruit, and livestock are profitably raised.

(Copied from page 107 in South Dakota, Fifty Years of Progress, 1889-1939.)
LESTERVILLE...was originally located several miles northeast and was named Moscow by early Russian settlers. In 1861 while the Milwaukee railroad was being built through that part of the country the post office was moved nearer the railroad, and the postmaster, A.S. Duning, succeeded in having the name changed to honor his first grandson, Lester Dex.

MISSION HILL...was platted in 1894 and was named by the Rev. C.B. Nichols for a near-by hill, on which was located a Congregational mission.

UTICA...is believed to have been derived from the Sioux word Otica, meaning "dweller." Another possibility is that it was named for Utica, New York.

VOLIN...was named for Henry P. Volin, pioneer landowner.

YANKTON...was named for the Yankton tribe of Sioux Indians, inhabitants of this territory when the town was settled in 1858. The name is a corruption of the Sioux word Ihanktonwan, meaning "end village." (See Yankton County)

(Copied from South Dakota Place-Names, 1940.)

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YANKTON COUNTY CENSUS FIGURES

In the census enumerated on the next page the following footnotes will be found of value. They refer to the figures in parentheses.

1) Yankton—Part of Yankton city reverted to T. 93, R. 55 (part) in 1941.

2) Incorporated from part of fractional T. 93, R. 54, in 1901.

3) Made independent of Narindahl twp. in 1901.

4) Irene is partly in Clay, Turner, and Yankton counties; no report in 1910.

5) Organized in 1900. Formerly included in Irene village.


8) Incorporated from part of T. 94, R. 56, in 1905.

9) Incorporated from part of T. 94, R. 54, in 1901.

10) No comparison of population can be made; not returned by townships in 1890. Part of Waish-Istown twp. was taken to form Gayville in 1901.
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<th>Place</th>
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<th>1920</th>
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</tbody>
</table>

Total population for Yankton County by year is as follows: 2,224 in 1870; 8,390 in 1880, of whom 3,431 lived in Yankton city; 10,444 in 1890; 12,649 in 1900; 13,135 in 1910; 15,233 in 1920; 16,589 in 1930; 16,725 in 1940; 16,804 in 1950.
Footnotes Continued:
(11) Irene village made independent of Danville township in 1901.
(12) Returned as a school township in 1900.
(13) Part of T. 94, R. 54 was taken to form Volin town in 1901.
(14) Township 93, Ranges 55 and 56 (parts) were returned as entire townships and ranges in 1930; parts of Yankton city were annexed at various dates since 1930.

(Copied from Federal Census Reports.)

In 1890 Yankton County had 3,289 males and 3,226 females who were native born. It had 2,153 males and 1,776 females who were foreign born. There were 1,231 males and 1,195 females who were native whites of native parents, and 2,029 males and 1,997 females who were native whites of foreign parents. There were 31 males and 35 females who were listed as "colored."

Of the 3,929 foreign born in Yankton County in 1890, 113 came from Canada and Newfoundland, 208 from Ireland, 138 from England, 32 from Scotland, 7 from Wales, 715 from Germany, 8 from Holland, 1,054 from Norway, 120 from Sweden, 333 from Denmark, 654 from Russia, 321 from Bohemia, and 226 from other countries.

Of the county's total population of 10,444 in 1890, 5,442 were males and 5,002 were females. Of the males 21 years and over, 970 were native whites and 1,735 were foreign whites, plus 17 "colored" men.

Yankton County in 1890 had 1,897 families and 1,861 dwellings, with 5.55 persons to a dwelling and 5.51 to a family.

Microfilm copies of the 1870 and 1880 censuses for Yankton County are in the library of the State Historical Society in Pierre. For each person living in the county, in 1880, the following data is given: full name, sex, marital condition, age, color, schooling, occupation, place of birth, and parents' place of birth. The 1870 census gives about the same data but adds the value of real and personal property of each head of a family. It also states whether a person was dumb, blind, insane, or idiotic.

Beginning in 1895 South Dakota took its own census midway between the dates of the Federal censuses. Yankton County had the following: 11,305 in 1895; 13,126 in 1905; 14,051 in 1915; 16,037 in 1925; 17,025 in 1935; and 15,596 in 1945.
YANKTON COUNTY.


(Copied from page 407 in Doane Robinson's *History of South Dakota*, vol. 1, 1904.)

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YANKTON COUNTY.

Yankton County, first settled in 1859, was organized in 1862. The land area is 523 square miles, and in 1935, its population was listed at 17,025.

Yankton County played an important part in the early history of South Dakota. One of the last official acts of President Buchanan was to sign the bill creating Dakota Territory (March 2, 1861), and one of the first acts of President Abraham Lincoln was to appoint his old friend and family physician, Dr. William Jayne, as the first territorial governor. Governor Jayne was given authority to name the location for the Capital, and Yankton was selected. During the early years, difficulties with hostile Indians prompted Yankton citizens to build a stockade sufficiently large to accommodate the settlers of the surrounding territory.

Recreational advantages in Yankton County are equal to any of the eastern or central counties. Pheasants, ducks, and geese are found in the fields
and along streams, the latter two especially during migratory season. Cotton-tail rabbits and squirrels may be found in the woods, and a few raccoon inhabit the groves along the Missouri River bottom.

The Jamesville colony site in the northern part of the county has been proposed for development as a state park. Such a move would create an area of value for recreational purposes and would serve the needs of a large area.

Baseball, basketball, golf, tennis and swimming are among the more prominent forms of recreation in the county, with football coming in for some emphasis in the fall of the year.

(Copied from page 173 in *Recreation in South Dakota*, 1937.)

* * *

EARLY YANKTON COUNTY POST OFFICES

The listing below shows the various post offices which exist or formerly existed in Yankton County, together with the dates of establishment of the dates of the appointments of the first postmasters. Also shown are the dates of discontinuance of some offices and changes of spelling or name. Dates are by month, day, and year. Abbreviations used are dis (discontinued) and est (established). Offices are listed in their order of establishment.


The date of establishment of a post office is a very good index of the time when an area of the county first had enough homesteaders to warrant having a post office. The exact location of these post offices may often be found by consulting Andreas’ atlas of 1884, Peterson’s atlas of 1904, and other early atlases and county maps. The Wi-iyohi, April through August, 1952, also gives the exact location of many as they appeared on early maps.

Some post offices moved around from time to time in a rural area as the postmasters changed. Often they were located at his home or a nearby country store. They were frequently named for the first postmaster.

The data given above are from the official records of the Post Office Department, Washington, D.C., which furnished a microfilm copy to Mr. George H. Phillips, Journalism Department, State College. The names of all postmasters and the dates of their appointments may be found on this microfilm.

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YANKTON COUNTY

"Yankton County. Created and organized, 1862; named for the Yankton band of Sioux Indians; bounded on the north by north line of township 96; on the east by line separating ranges 53 and 54; on the south by main channel of the Missouri River; on the west by the west boundary line of range 57, west 5th P.M. Settled in 1859 by Joseph R. Hanson and others. County seat, Yankton. Area, 334-720 acres."

"Yankton. Founded, 1858; named for Yankton band of Sioux who formerly occupied the townsite; capital, Dakota Territory, 1861-1883; seat of Yankton College, founded in 1881. Has Milwaukee, Northwestern and Great Northern railways; combination R.R. and wagon bridge across the Missouri River built by the citizens; home of the Gurney Seed and Nursery Company."

(Copied from Doane Robinson’s Encyclopedia of South Dakota, 1925.)
TERRITORIAL AND STATE HISTORY

BY CLARK M. YOUNG, PH. D.
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I. LOUISIANA TO ITS ACQUISITION BY THE UNITED STATES.

EARLY INHABITANTS.

The territory between the Mississippi river and the Rocky mountains is famous in Indian life and legends. Two linguistic groups of Indians successively held this territory and fought here for supremacy. The earliest Indian occupancy of this section of which there is any definite knowledge was by the Caddoan group whose habitat was mainly in Dakota, Nebraska, Kansas, Arkansas, and Indian Territory. Divisions of this group are the Arikara tribe, the Pawnee Confederacy, the Kitcai Tribe, the Wichita and Caddo Confederacies. Of these subdivisions of the Caddoan group the Pawnees were the most important, and were the especial foes of the Siouan group for many generations. Pawnee Indians even served in the United States Army in its wars against the Sioux. The conflict of the Caddoan Indians with the Sioux resulted in the supremacy of the latter, and the former were gradually pushed southward where the main remnant of them is today quartered in Indian Territory. The Arikara who were early located in what is now North Dakota were there surrounded by the Sioux and cut off from their fellows. The remnant of this tribe is now found on Fort Berthold Reservation, North Dakota.

The Siouan Group was the most powerful, perhaps, of all Indian stocks. It occupied the territory reaching from near Hudson Bay to the Gulf. The Kataba group of the Sioux included, it is believed, several Carolina tribes, and in addition there was a Virginia division to which belonged some tribes whose names were recorded by Captain John Smith. The Dakota division included the Dakota tribes and the Assiniboin. The Winnebago Tribe is a branch of the Sioux Nation which was evidently stranded on the western shore of
Lake Michigan when the Sioux were driven west by the Algonquin Indians. Some of the more important tribes of the Sioux people in the Northwest are Ponka, Omaha, Kwapa, Osage, Kansa, Yankton, Santee.

In the north, these Indians were divided into two distinct divisions, (First) the Mendeocantons, or Dakotas of the Lakes, and (Second) the Tetons, or Dakotas of the Prairies. There was more or less conflict and antagonism between the tribes and bands of the Sioux. The large area over which the Sioux were scattered gave the various branches considerable isolation, and thus differences in habits and modes of life, as well as differences in dialect, readily led to antagonisms. The Omahas, who originally lived in the southwestern part of South Dakota, were driven south by the Dakotas and forced to locate in Nebraska, where they disputed the territory with the Pawnees of Caddoan stock.

The Sioux for more than two hundred years were noted as the most warlike nation of Indians in the northwest. Mr. Riggs interprets this fact as due to the influence of three customs, viz., the scalp dance, the wearing of eagles' feathers, and the consecrated armor. The scalp dance is a dance of self-glorification, taking place upon the return of a successful war party having in their possession one or more scalps which they have taken. It is the celebration of their skill and triumph, and is thus described by Mr. Riggs: (1) "A hoop two feet in diameter, more or less, with a handle several feet long, is prepared, on which the scalp is stretched. The young men gather together and arrange themselves in a semicircle; those who participated in taking the scalp are painted black, and the others are daubed with red or yellow paint, according to their fancy; and all dance to the beat of the drum. On the other side of the circle stand the women, arranged in line, one of whom carries the scalp of the enemy. The men sing their war chants and praise the bravery of those who have returned from the warpath, and the women, at intervals, sing an answering chorus. As with other nations a new song is often made for the occasion; but the old ones are not forgotten. This may serve as a sample:

Something I've killed, and I lift up my voice;
Something I've killed, and I lift up my voice;
The Northern buffalo I've killed and I lift up my voice;
Something I've killed, and I lift up my voice.

"The 'northern buffalo' means a black bear; and the 'black bear' means a man. The 'lifting up the voice' is in mourning for the slain enemy. Night after night is the dance kept up by the young men and women, until the leaves fall, if commenced in summer; or, if the scalp was brought home in the winter, until the leaves grow again. On each occasion of painting the scalp a whole day is spent dancing around it. And these are high days—days of making gifts, feasting, and general rejoicing."

Eagle feathers were worn as the insignia of war honors by the braves. Whoever had killed a man or had participated in killing one was entitled to wear an eagle feather. Five braves might share in killing one man, but he who first plunged his battle axe or scalping knife into the foe was counted as having the first honor. The killing of a man entitled the brave to wear the feather of the royal eagle, but for the killing of a woman he was entitled to wear only the feather of a common eagle.

The armor of an Indian brave consisted of a spear, an arrow and a bundle of paint, together with some swan's down painted red. To these were sometimes added roots for the healing of wounds. These articles were given to the brave by an older man of the tribe who had, it was believed, the power to consecrate them and who could make inhere in them the spirit of some animal whose characteristics were admired by the Indians, as an eagle, a beaver, a bird, a wolf, a loon. Henceforth, for the brave who had thus received the consecrated armor the bird or animal thus invoked became his tutelar divinity, his armor god, and was not to be killed or eaten until certain conditions were fulfilled.

"At the present time the Indian population of South Dakota is comprised in the Sissetons and Wahpeton and bands of the Sioux, who have severed tribal relations, and are established upon lands in severalty in the northeast corner of the state; the Flandreau band of Sisseton Indians, who are quite civilized, and reside on farms in the vicinity of Flandreau; the Yankton, who have also taken their lands in severalty at Yankton Agency, in Charles Mix county; a party of Yanktonaise and Santees, transferred from the Mississippi Valley to the Crow Creek Agency, north of Chamberlain, in Buffalo county; the Cheyenne Sioux of the Teton family, at the Cheyenne River Agency, on the Missouri river, opposite Forest City; the Brule Sioux, an off-shoot of the Teton, at Lower Brule Agency, below the mouth of Medicine creek on
the Missouri river; the Rose Bud Sioux, also Tetons, about one hundred miles west of the Missouri river, and near the south line of the state; the Pine Ridge Sioux, also Tetons, at the south line of the state just east of the Black Hills. The Cheyenne, Brules, Rose Buds, and Pine Ridge Indians are all semi-civilized, and are engaged in a greater or less extent in agriculture and stock raising. Many of them have vast herds of horses and cattle, and are wealthy" (2).

THE LOUISIANA PURCHASE.

Louisiana, as the country west of the Mississippi river was called, was discovered by the French. Joliet and Marquette penetrated to the region of the upper waters of the Mississippi in 1673, and in 1680 Hennepin discovered the falls of St. Anthony. La Salle made his famous exploring trip down the Mississippi, 1681–82, reaching the river by way of the Great Lakes and the Chicago-Illinois portage. He took formal possession of this vast valley in the name of his sovereign, Louis XIV. The first settlement in Louisiana was made in 1699 by the French on one of the islands east of the mouth of the Mississippi, but was later removed to the shore of Mobile Bay. In 1718 New Orleans was founded. With this settlement made, France then possessed the two gateways as well as the two great highways to the interior of the continent, and her next effort was to establish a line of trading posts and forts down the St. Lawrence and the Great Lakes to connect with the line that slowly pushed its way up the Mississippi-Ohio Valley.

At the end of the Seven Years' War France relinquished all of her possessions in America. Spain was compensated for the loss of Florida by the cession of Louisiana to her by France. In 1800 France again received this territory by a secret treaty with Spain which was then under the rule of Napoleon. This move filled Jefferson with alarm, especially as it had been preceded by the withdrawal on the part of Spain of the "right of deposit" granted to Westerners by the treaty of 1795. This meant the closure of the only route to the markets of the world for the people of the Mississippi Valley, since the mouth of the river was held by Spain. Jefferson directed our ministers to France, Livingston and Monroe, to enter into negotiations for the purchase of the strip of coast east of the Mississippi and including New Orleans. Talleyrand, who was then minister of Foreign Affairs, instead
offered to sell the whole of Louisiana. Monroe and Livingston exceeded their instructions and negotiated for the purchase of the vast area of all Louisiana for the sum of sixty million francs, and the relinquishment by France of all debts due citizens of the United States upon claims for spoliations committed against American commerce by France since 1800. These claims amounted to about three and three-quarters millions of dollars, bringing the total purchase price up to $15,000,000. The importance of this purchase is expressed in the words of Jefferson when the first news of the French ownership of Louisiana reached him. He said: "The day that France takes possession of New Orleans fixes the sentence which is to restrain her forever within her low-water mark. It seals the union of two nations, who in conjunction, can maintain exclusive possession of the ocean. From that moment we must marry ourselves to the British fleet and nation."

The purchase of this territory removed the necessity of "marrying ourselves to the British fleet and nation." The population of the territory at the time of purchase was about fifty thousand, of which more than one half were negro slaves. This was by far the most important event in our national history thus far. One writer remarks that "The palpable necessary consequences of this acquisition, through its effect upon the membership of the Union and upon the balance of power within the government, were so overwhelming as to amount to almost a revolution. The original thirteen states had about half a million square miles, while the territory added by the Louisiana Purchase had not less than a million square miles" (3). This was the first step in the policy of expansion which has been fraught with such tremendous consequences for this country.

EARLY EXPLORATIONS BY WHITE MEN.

The conquest of Mexico by Cortez fired the imagination of the Spaniards, and there followed a series of exploring campaigns by which ambitious adventurers penetrated into the forests of the south and visited the plains of the middle west. Narvaez started on an exploring tour from the southern coast with a large expedition in 1528. Nothing was heard of this party until 1536 when one of its officers, De Vaca, and three companions appeared on the western coast of Mexico. They brought reports of civilized people living in the interior "in populous towns and in very large houses." They had heard remarkable rumors of immense herds of "wild cows"—the buffaloes, and of great wealth of gold and silver in the cities. Coronado, who was
then governor of the province of New Galicia sent a monk, one Marcos de Nizza, to search for the "seven cities of the province of Cibola." He visited the Pueblo region, saw the villages of the Zuni Indians, passed through many fertile valleys, and heard much of the rumored wealth of the region beyond.

Upon the strength of this report Coronado organized a great expedition in 1540 and began his celebrated march into the great plains of the middle west. The army which was thus led into this region was bountifully equipped with baggage train and everything needful for a great campaign. But disappointment met them at every turn. There were no cities, there was no wealth of gold and silver, and nothing to conquer but straggling Indian villages. Coronado returned to Mexico after traveling far to the north, possibly reaching the southern boundary of Nebraska. General Simpson characterizes this expedition as one which "far extent in distance traveled, duration in time, and the multiplicity of its co-operating expeditions, equalled, if it did not exceed, any land expedition that has been undertaken in modern times" (4). Whether this be true or not, this was the first inland expedition to this part of the west.

The French were represented in this region by M. LeSeuer, an agent of Frontenac, Governor of New France. His was a peace mission to the Indians of the Northwest to further the interests of the fur trade. He is known to have established posts upon the St. Croix and Mississippi rivers late in the seventeenth century, and to have reached the Missouri river. Upon his return to France he was given a patent by his government to mine copper west of the Mississippi river. He again visited this region, establishing himself in what is now Minnesota, whence he visited the Indian tribes of Dakota.

THE TRADING COMPANIES AS PIONEERS.

The main motive for exploring this country and settling it at the first was found in the profitable fur trading business. It was not until 1851 that white men had any legal claim to territory within the limits of Dakota. In this year a treaty was made with the Sioux by which a small area of land on the eastern boundary of South Dakota was opened up with other territory to the east of it for settlement. But previous to this the trading companies had opened the way for settlers to come in without legal warrant and establish themselves in desirable locations, later pleading "squatter rights"
to the land thus preempted. The Hudson Bay Company, chartered in 1670 by Charles II of England, was earliest in the field, and from its headquarters in the Hudson Bay region reached into the northern part of what was later known as the Louisiana Purchase. This company came into competition with the North-west Fur Company, organized in 1783, and with the American Fur Company founded by John Jacob Astor in 1809. In 1826 the latter company had practically monopolized the fur trade in the region of the Missouri river, along the line of which it had constructed forts and trading houses which later became centers for settlement. It was not until 1869 that the Hudson Bay Company relinquished its lands, but it is at present still trading in its former territory, as a private corporation.

In 1634 Jean Nicolet, a companion of Champlain, penetrated to central Wisconsin by way of the Fox river, and thence to Illinois county, having made trading agreements with the Indians along his way. In the winter of 1658-59 two French fur-traders, Radisson and Grosilliers, visited Wisconsin, and built a fort on Chequamegon Bay of Lake Superior. It is said that upon the strength of their discoveries the Hudson Bay Company was organized. These Frenchmen first offered their knowledge and their services to the French government, but not receiving any encouragement they sold out to England.

Viewed in the light of history, the competition of the fur-trading companies was not merely competition for business, but competition for the possession of a continent. The French penetrated to the heart of the continent by following its two great systems of water highways, the St. Lawrence and the Great Lakes and the Missouri-Mississippi river system. In many ways the advantage lay with the French. By means of the Jesuit missionaries they formed friendly alliances with the Indians, they held the great lines of water communication to the heart of the continent, and they established lines of trading houses and forts upon these. But in the outcome, the slow-footed Englishman was to win the prize instead of his more versatile and active French competitor. Reuben G. Thwaites thus aptly writes of the Englishman: "Englishmen were content to sow and reap in a plodding fashion, extending their territorial bounds no faster than their settlements needed room for growth. Their acquaintance with the Indians did not, with the exception of New York and southern fur-traders, extend beyond the tribes which touched their borders. They were possessed of remarkable vitality
and a strong sense of political and commercial independence" (5).

THE LEWIS AND CLARK EXPEDITION.

Jefferson is credited with prophetic insight as to the possibilities of the great northwest. He saw the desirability of reaching the western ocean by following the great transcontinental waterways of the Missouri and Columbia rivers. He shrewdly guessed that the head waters of these rivers could not be far apart, and early formed the idea of exploring their sources. The money with which to fit out the expedition he obtained as a sort of secret-service fund. Captain Lewis, who was made the head of the expedition, was his private secretary. The plans for this exploring expedition were made before the cession of Louisiana to this country, but undoubtedly this event was contemplated.

The expedition started May 24th, 1804, from the mouth of the Missouri river. The party was composed of forty-five persons in three boats. For 171 days they ascended the river finding winter quarters about thirty miles above Bismarck. They had travelled then, according to their own reckoning, 1,600 miles. In April of the next year the journey up the river was resumed. They reached the headwaters of the Missouri about the middle of August, having travelled about four thousand miles. Late in November of the year 1805 they reached the goal of their efforts, having passed down the Columbia to the Pacific in log canoes roughly hollowed out by burning. They wintered on the coast, and the next year returned by the way they had come. This expedition is one of the most remarkable of its kind. It is the only voyage ever made by white men or Indians up the current of the Missouri with such primitive means of propulsion as oars, sail, pole and tow-line. Its results were most important. The Indian tribes were notified of the fact of their new relation to the United States government, much valuable information of the various Indian tribes was collected, an accurate knowledge of the general characteristics of the interior of the continent was secured, and last, but by no means least, it laid the foundation for one of our strongest claims to the Oregon territory.

Many of the localities mentioned in the journal of the Lewis and Clark expedition are within the territory of the Dakotas. The first stop on Dakota soil was made August 22d, near the site of the present city of Elk
Point. August 25th Captains Lewis and Clark led a party to Spirit Mound eight or nine miles north of Vermilion. This natural mound of earth was examined with great care, and the journal recites the Indian superstition that it was the dwelling place of “little spirits, or little devils, in the human form, of about eighteen inches high, and with remarkably large heads; they are armed with sharp arrows with which they are very skillful, and are always on the watch to kill those who would have the hardihood to approach their residence.”

A few days later the party encamped on Bon Homme Island. On the seventh of September they reached Trudeau's trading house, located near the present site of Wheeler, Charles Mix county. This trading house was built by M. Trudeau, a Frenchman, in 1796, and was the first house erected by white men within the limits of our state. On the 24th of September they reached the mouth of the Teton or Bad river, where Ft. Pierre now is, and held a council with the Teton Sioux. The river is here described as being “about seventy yards wide and with considerable current.”

Various other landings were made within the territory of the Dakotas before the winter's camp was reached above Mandan.

The return of this expedition, in 1806, was made an event of national rejoicing. President Jefferson had communicated to Congress the first information of the work of the expedition which he received at the end of the first year. The news of the successful completion of the perilous undertaking had been eagerly awaited by the people.

THE POLITICAL HISTORY OF LOUISIANA, TO 1803.

The Mississippi Valley came under the dominion of France as a result of the explorations of La Salle, who started from New France, traversed the Great Lakes, and reached the Mississippi river via the Chicago-Illinois portage, descending to the mouth of the river and taking formal possession of the country in the name of the French king. In 1699 the first French settlement was planted in Louisiana, first on an island at the mouth of the Mississippi, and later removed to the shores of Mobile Bay. New Orleans was founded in 1718. The line of settlements and trading posts crept up the river slowly, but the French were in secure possession of the Mississippi Valley by reason of discovery and also on the ground of settlement.

In 1712 the French king granted practically all of the territory between the Alleghany and the Rocky mountains to Anthony Crozat, a rich and
influential merchant of France, with exclusive privileges of commerce for the period of fifteen years. In five years Crozat was glad to surrender his monopoly to the crown. Thereupon this vast area was bestowed upon John Law's Mississippi Company with most extensive powers as to commerce and government. Some progress was made under this proprietorship to develop the country, but the returns from the outlay never equalled the expenditures made in behalf of the province. It came about thus, that in 1732 the Mississippi Company surrendered its charter to the king and Louisiana again became a royal province.

The outcome of the Seven Years' War compelled France to relinquish her territorial possessions on the American continent. Canada and the eastern part of the Mississippi Valley went to England as victor, and France ceded Louisiana to Spain, her ally, as a compensation for her losses in the war. Of all her American possessions France retained only her West Indies and some small island holdings. Thus Spain and England were left in possession of the continent, with the Mississippi river as the dividing line.

When Bonaparte became First Consul in 1800 he formed the idea of establishing a great American Empire. He, therefore, sought to recover for France the territory of Louisiana as the first step in this remarkable program. He readily induced Spain to cede him Louisiana, and then set on foot a great expedition to occupy the island of San Domingo which was to be used as a base for his further operations. The defeat of the French army of occupation at the hands of Toussaint L'Ouverture, a native general at the head of the blacks of San Domingo, entirely disarranged the plans of Napoleon, and put him in a mood to dispose of this territory which he then felt would be a burden upon his hands. The prospect of war with England strengthened this purpose, and thus he came to offer Louisiana to the United States at a time when we little dreamed that such a purchase was possible. The treaty of 1803 gave us Louisiana with the same boundaries it had in the hands of Spain.

II. TERRITORIAL HISTORY.

GOVERNMENT PRIOR TO 1861.

The ordinance of 1787 first gave definite form to the idea of territor-
ial government. This was a radical departure from the theory of colonial government, and was entirely in line with the Anglo-Saxon conception of local autonomy. The idea of territorial government is distinctly a product of American political genius. It is the least objectionable form of political tutelage, and in our political policy thus far has been considered as a preparation for entrance into the sisterhood of American States.

The government for Louisiana was provided by act of Congress in 1805, and St. Louis was the capital of the territory thus formed. In 1812 Louisiana having been admitted as a state, the remainder of the Louisiana Purchase became the Territory of Missouri, and this included what is now the two Dakotas. When Missouri was admitted in 1821, the rest of the territory remained nameless and ungoverned for thirteen years.

The Territory of Michigan was created by act of Congress in 1834, and included that part of the Dakotas lying east of the Missouri in addition to the area of the states of Wisconsin, Michigan, Iowa, and Minnesota. In 1836 the Territory of Wisconsin was made to include the same parts of the Dakotas as had the Territory of Michigan. In 1838 the eastern portion of the Dakotas became a part of the Territory of Iowa, to be transferred in 1849 to the Territory of Minnesota.

From 1858, the date when Minnesota became a state, the area of the Dakotas was again without legal name or corporate existence until the Territory of Dakota was organized in 1861. In 1869 Montana was separated from Dakota Territory. The division of Dakota into North and South Dakota was accomplished simultaneously with the admission of these States. Dakota Territory thus had a legal existence for the period of twenty-eight years.

EARLY TREATIES WITH THE INDIANS.

As has been previously stated, the first treaty with the Indians by which white men obtained legal title to land in the Dakotas was negotiated in 1851 with the Sioux. The land thus obtained was between the Big Sioux and the Minnesota State line, the site of Sioux Falls being included in this.

The next treaty was made in 1858, and secured for the whites the territory between the Big Sioux and the Missouri with the exception of two small reservations made in the interest of the Indians. This included a total of 16,000,000 acres. Over one and a half million dollars was paid for this cession of land during the next fifty years in the form of annuities. After this date efforts were put forth to secure a territorial government
for Dakota.

James S. Foster in his "History of Dakota Territory" published in 1870, in speaking of the eagerness with which settlers rushed into the new country opened up for settlement by the treaty of 1858, says, "as soon as the Indians were out of sight, and perhaps before, claim hunters had crossed the river from Nebraska, and staked out claims for a distance of several miles each way from the site of Yankton." In fact, settlers were already located along the valley of the Missouri before the treaty was made. The removal of the Indians was not accomplished until 1859.

"SQUATTER" GOVERNMENT.

The settlers in Dakota whose landed rights were acquired under the treaties of 1851 and 1858 were without local government until the organization of the territory in 1861. "Under these circumstances the settlers were cut off from political rights, and if they were to have law and order it must come from their voluntary action. The political instinct of the American citizen here asserted itself, and for two years the settlers of the valleys of the Missouri and the Sioux elected squatter legislatures and squatter governors. The first of these provisional legislatures was elected in 1858, printed notices of the election having been sent out by the authority of a 'mass convention of the people of Dakota Territory held in Sioux Falls'" (6). "The session lasted but a few days, and the principal business done was to memorialize Congress for the organization of a new territory, and to elect a governor and a delegate to Congress" (7).

The first provisional legislature adopted the laws of Minnesota as a basis of legal procedure and for the preservation of the peace. Henry Masters was chosen governor and S.J. Albright speaker of the house. By the election of 1859 Jefferson P. Kidder was elected delegate to Congress, and S.J. Albright governor. As Mr. Albright declined to qualify for this office, W.W. Brookings, who had been elected president of the council, assumed the office of governor by common consent, which position he held until the territory was organized.

Mr. Kidder, as delegate to Congress from this anomalous territory, applied for admission to that body, but failed to be seated by a few votes. One reason for the delay in organizing the territory lay in the fact that
the republican members of Congress demanded that the organic act for the territory should contain a clause prohibiting slavery, and the bill was not passed until the southern members retired upon the eve of the Rebellion.

ORGANIZATION OF THE TERRITORY.

The organic act for Dakota was practically the same as those erecting other western territories. Dakota originally included territory that is now found in five States, viz., portions of Idaho, Wyoming, Montana and all of the two Dakotas. The boundary of Dakota as it was first organized was as follows: Starting in the channel of the Red River of the North where it is crossed by the forty-ninth parallel of north latitude, the line follows this river to Big Stone lake; thence along the western boundaries of Minnesota and Iowa to the point where the Big Sioux intersects the Missouri; thence along the channel of the Missouri to the mouth of the Niobrara; thence up the Niobrara and Keya Paha rivers to the forty-third parallel of latitude; thence to the eastern boundary of Washington; thence north to the forty-ninth parallel of latitude; and thence east to the point of beginning. The territory as thus organized included an area of over 350,000 square miles, and was nearly as large as the combined areas of France and Spain.

By 1873 the parts of Montana, Wyoming and Idaho included in Dakota had been cut off, and the western boundary of the territory was placed on the present line of the western boundary of the two Dakotas. The area of the territory in its final form was 150,932 square miles.

Under the organic act for Dakota the President appointed the governor, secretary, chief-justice and associate justices, United States attorney, and surveyor-general. The salaries of these officers were paid by the United States government. The legislative power was vested in two houses known as the council and the house of representatives. The membership in these bodies was limited by the act to not less than nine and not more than thirteen members in the council, and to not less than thirteen nor more than twenty-six members in the house. In the later period of the territory the maximum membership of the council was placed at twenty-four and that of the house at forty-eight. The territorial courts directly under federal supervision were the supreme court of the Territory and several district courts, presided over by a chief-justice and associate justices appointed by the President. William Jayne, of Illinois, was the first governor. He arrived at Yankton to organize the territorial government May 27, 1861.
The men who presided over the destinies of the Territory of Dakota as chief magistrates, together with their terms of service are as follows:

William Jayne, 1861-63; Newton Edmunds, 1863-66; Andrew J. Faulk, 1866-69; John A. Burbank, 1869-74; John L. Pennington, 1874-76; William A. Howard, 1878-80; Nehemiah G. Ordway, 1880-84; Gilbert A. Pierce, 1884-87; Louis K. Church, 1887-89; Arthur C. Mellette, 1889.

The chief-justices of the Territory are as follows:

Philemon Bliss, 1861-64; Ara Bartlett, 1865-69; Geo. W. French, 1869-72; Peter C. Shannon, 1873-81; A.J. Edgerton, 1881-85; Bartlett Tripp, 1885-89.

The first election was called by Governor Jayne for September 16th, 1861. The election was spiritedly contested. There were three candidates for delegate to Congress, viz., Capt. J.B.S. Todd, A.J. Bell, of Vermilion, and Charles P. Booge, of Sioux City. Of the 495 votes cast, Todd received 397.

The first legislature met at Yankton in March, 1862. The following persons constituted its membership:


Many important matters called for the attention of this first legislature. It passed 91 general laws, 25 private laws, and 21 memorials to Congress. The seat of government was located at Yankton. Sioux Falls, Vermilion, and Yankton were all candidates for this honor. The political and capital campaign resulted in the establishment of two newspapers, viz., "The Dakotain" at Yankton, the successor to which still survives, and "The Republican" at Vermilion, which has maintained its publication to the present day. The location of the territorial penitentiary at Bon Homme, the establishment of a territorial university at Vermilion, a series of acts organizing counties, the enactment of civil and criminal codes for the territory, the incorporation of an Old Settlers' Historical Association
The early settlements in the valley of the Sioux were made with speculation as a motive and under the leadership of land companies. The first information of this region was given to the world by Joseph N. Nicollet, the distinguished geographer who accompanied Gen. Fremont in his visit to the section of what is now South Dakota in 1839. This party entered by way of the Missouri river which they ascended as far as Ft. Pierre, thence going overland to Devils lake, and returning east by way of Big Stone lake. The picturesque features of the site of Sioux Falls, and the waterpower afforded by the falls of the river (8), had attracted the attention of prospective settlers. The valley of the Sioux was originally attached to Minnesota, but upon the admission of the state in 1858 this strip of country, opened up to settlement by the treaty of 1851, was left unrelated to any political body.

One of the land companies formed for the purpose of making a settlement in this region was the Western Town Company, of Dubuque, Iowa. This company was organized in 1856. Its representatives were on the ground that year and located a townsite of three hundred and twenty acres. The attempt at a permanent settlement by this company was made in the summer of 1857, and was persisted in in spite of the danger from Indian raids.

The Dakota Land Company was chartered by the legislature of Minnesota Territory in 1857, with the avowed purpose of securing desirable town sites in the land of Dakota. Representatives of this company arrived at Sioux Falls one week after the settlers of the Western Town Company had established themselves there in the summer of 1857. A section of land was located by the Dakota Land Company adjoining that of the Dubuque Company. Several other desirable town sites in the eastern part of Dakota were also located by the Minnesota company. The settlers of the Sioux Valley were thus in Dakota during the time of the "squatter" government, and took a prominent part in the movements of that period.

In spite of the threats of the Indians, and their frequent warnings to the whites to leave the country the settlers persisted in their determination. The Sioux Falls settlement prospered from 1857 to 1862, the date of the Indian massacre in Minnesota, at which time the settlers in the Sioux Valley withdrew. The valley was deserted until the year 1865, when the people returned under the protection of United States troops. This military protec-
tion was given them until 1869.

Prominent among the early settlers of this region were W.W. Brookings, J.L. Phillips, John McClellan, R.B. McKinley, S.B. Atwood, A.L. Kilgore, James L. Fiske, James McBride, William Little, James Allen, James M. Evans, D.M. Mills, Smith Kinzey. These men braved many dangers in their bold attempt to effect this settlement. The development of Dakota was at the cost of much privation and many lives, the most of which were sacrificed to the hatred and treachery of the Indians who ever viewed the white man as an intruder, and as one who was robbing them of their rightful heritage.

SETTLEMENT OF THE MISSOURI VALLEY.

Yankton was the pioneer settlement of the Missouri Valley with Vermilion a close second. In 1858 trading posts were established at Yankton and Vermilion by Frost, Todd & Company, to whom had been granted a license to trade with the Indians. Not much in the way of settlement could be accomplished in this region until after the Indian title to the land was extinguished, and this was accomplished by the treaty of 1858. The Indians, however, were not actually removed until July, 1859. The influx of white settlers dates from the summer of 1859, therefore. Bon Homme, Yankton, Clay, and Union counties were the scenes of these early settlements. The towns of Bon Homme, Yankton, Vermilion, and Elk Point were the germinal points for the population which filled this fertile valley.

Something of the rapidity of this settlement may be learned from the fact that the first census of the territory, taken in June, 1861, showed a population of 2,402 people. The Indian outbreak of 1862 arrested the progress of settlement in Dakota, and it was not until after 1868 when the Sioux were relocated west of the Missouri river that the danger of Indian raids was entirely removed. Even then the reports of the Indian troubles in Minnesota and Dakota which found their way to the east, in much exaggerated form, deterred people from seeking locations in a section threatened by such dangers.

During the earlier decades of territorial life southeastern Dakota contained the bulk of the population of the territory, and here centered its larger industrial and commercial interests. The first land entry was not made in what is now North Dakota until 1871. The first telegraph in the
territory was built from Sioux City to Yankton in 1871, and in 1873 the railroad was completed between those two places. The discovery of gold in the Black Hills in 1874 and the opening up this section to settlement in 1877 contributed greatly to the rapidity of territorial development, but temporarily turned the tide of settlement from the other sections to that region of fabulous mineral resources.

In this early period the "colony" method of settlement was a popular one. One of the "colonies" entering the valley of the Missouri was organized principally through the efforts of James S. Foster, in New York, and started on its pilgrimage to the west from Syracuse, N.Y., with a chartered train which landed the party and their effects at Marshalltown, Iowa. The rest of the journey was made with teams. The "colony" crossed the Sioux near Sioux City in May, 1864, and took their way up the fertile valley of the Missouri, many of the families settling on claims between Sioux City and Yankton. Mr. Foster and about fifteen families located at Yankton that year. Mr. Foster afterward became superintendent of public instruction for the territory, and was for many years a prominent figure in territorial and state affairs.

Other members of this party, whose names will be recognized by those familiar with the early history of the territory, were S.C. Fargo, Charles Van Epps, A.L. Hinman, James Prentis, G.C. Moody, A.C. Brownson, L.W. Case, Ellison Brownson, Charles N. Taylor, Darwin Phillips, Amos Phillips, L.H. Elliott.

Bon Homme was settled in 1858 by a "colony" of settlers from Mankato, Minnesota, which entered the territory immediately after the consummation of the treaty of 1858. This settlement prospered, and Bon Homme became one of the important places of the early territorial life. Here was built the first school house in the territory. Bon Homme and Vermilion were competitors for the early educational honors in the territory. It appears upon indisputable testimony that the honor of having built the first school house in the territory must be bestowed upon the town of Bon Homme and its enterprising young community. The first school house was built there in 1860, but this was a primitive affair, and in the year 1862 a school house of some pretensions, for those days, was built by Mr. Shober, of Bon Homme, at his own expense. Mrs. Williams, born Rounds, a member of the Mankato "colony" of settlers who settled at Bon Homme and who was a pupil of this first school,
gives her testimony as follows regarding the first and second school house at Bon Homme:

"Our family, in company with a number of others, arrived in Bon Homme about November 12, 1859. Shortly after we were settled, Mr. D.P. Bradford came and built a house for his family, who were then living in Sioux City. His family came to Bon Homme on the first boat in the spring of 1860. The river opened very early that spring, some time in February, and it was probably the latter part of April or the first of May when they arrived. The first school house was built after they came, and as it was a primitive affair it did not take long to build it. Within two weeks of the arrival of the Bradfords, Miss Emma Bradford, second daughter of D.P. Bradford, then about sixteen years of age, was installed as teacher. She taught a three months' term of school. There were ten pupils as follows: John and Le Anna Bradford; Melissa, John and Ira Brown; Ann, Mary, and George McDaniel; George and Delia Rounds. Miss Emma Bradford returned to Sioux City in the fall of 1860 to continue her studies in the schools of that place. In 1861 there was a good deal of building and improvement in the town, but there was no school, from the lack of a teacher, I suppose. In 1862, at the time of the Indian trouble, we had what we considered a fine new school house, built by Mr. Shober at his own expense. It was made of hewn logs, had a rough cotton-wood floor, cotton-wood shingles on the roof, three windows of two sash each with 8 x 10 glass, and a ceiling overhead of thin, cotton-wood boards which warped until they looked as though they had been run through a fluting machine. But in that building we never had a school. The people all went to Yankton that year and fortified themselves against the Indians. When the scare was over, very few of them ever returned, some going back to their homes in the east, and a few settling in Iowa. We returned to Bon Homme, and in the spring of 1864 my mother bought from Mr. Shober this new school house. Sometime in June, 1864, there arrived in Bon Homme about a dozen families of what was called the Syracuse Colony, under the direction of Jas. S. Foster. Mrs. Foster opened a school shortly after their arrival in Mr. Bradford's house, which had been used during the winters of 1862-3 as soldiers' barracks, there having been a squad of soldiers kept in Bon Homme for the protection of the settlers, and as a relay in carrying the
dispatches to the forts above us on the river. Mrs. Foster taught a three-months' term of school, -- and this is the history of the first and second schools in the old town of Bon Homme."

"The first permanent school house erected within the limits of the territory was built at Vermilion in 1864. It was built of logs taken from the 'timber' on the banks of the Missouri, and its exact location is still pointed out. The first school in this house was taught by Amos F. Shaw in the winter of 1864-5" (9).

The Missouri river at this time, and during the period of early territorial life, was the great highway for the transportation of settlers and their goods into Dakota and the region beyond. Indian agencies, trading posts, and military posts along the course of the river, and at quite a distance from it, all made demands for goods that could only be transported by boats on the river. The "northern mines" on the sources of the Missouri and the Columbia rivers had attracted quite a population to this remote region. Mills and other mining machinery were carried up the river to this remote region by boat, and this materially increased the traffic on the Missouri. In 1866-7 the Committee on Mineral and Agricultural Resources of Dakota in its report to the legislature estimated the traffic on the Missouri as follows:

"Since the opening of navigation in 1860, one hundred and eighty steamboats have ascended the Missouri river into Dakota territory. Of these, nine arrived in 1860, eleven in 1861, thirteen in 1862, eighteen in 1863, thirty in 1864, thirty-nine in 1865, fifty-eight in 1866, an average of thirty arrivals each year, or an increase of forty per cent per annum. These boats have carried into the upper Missouri Valley an aggregate of 55,000 tons of freight, worth at least $65,000,000. Aside from this, 700 mackinaw boats have arrived from the mountains since 1860, bringing over $5,000,000 in furs and gold. . . . The northern mines were discovered not more than three years ago, and now have a population of 30,000, of which 12,000 are east of the mountains."

THE INDIAN WAR.

In August of 1862 the Indians of Minnesota attacked the settlers, killed many and took several hundred women and children prisoners. A little later the Indians in Dakota manifested hostility and several settlers were killed. When the news of the Indian uprising became known, the settlers at
Sioux Falls and those in the valley of the Missouri concentrated at Yankton for mutual defense. Crops, live stock, and dwellings were abandoned in the haste of the people to reach a place of safety. The panic even reached Sioux City, and many people there left for the east, never to return. As the crops were about ready to harvest when the settlers left their homes, much loss resulted. During the fall most of the settlers returned to their homes, where they remained undisturbed.

Two companies of Dakota cavalry were organized to serve in the Indian War. Captain Nelson Miner was in command of one of these, and Captain William Trip was at the head of the other. These companies were mustered into the United States service, and they served faithfully during the war, as it was called, in General Sully's campaign. At the end of their service they were honorably discharged, and returned to their farms. The only other military service contributed by the settlers of the territory at this time was an organization of "home Guards" organized for temporary purposes at Yankton by F.M. Ziebach. The old Yankton chief, Struck-by-the- Ree, whose friendship for the whites had always been marked, did valiant service with his warriors in protecting his friends and allies, the white settlers.

In 1863 the Indians were given their first severe lesson. General Sibley led a detachment of troops against the hostiles who had been located near the head-waters of the James, and fought a battle with them in the vicinity of Bismarck. The Indians were defeated and fled across the river. General Sully, who had been advancing up the valley of the Missouri, came upon these Indians a little later and won a most decisive victory, killing five hundred of them and capturing one-half as many.

Governor Edmunds' message to the Fourth Legislative Assembly of the territory, 1864-5, contains severe criticisms of the conduct of the military operations in this war. He said, "I am fully convinced that little, if anything, has been accomplished toward the subjugation of the Indians." This seems mere captiousness. It is written after all of the important campaigns of the war had been made and the Indians finally routed. In this same message Governor Edmunds describes the effect of the Indian hostilities upon the territory. He wrote as follows:

"The effect of the continuance of this war upon the prosperity of the
territory has been most damaging and deleterious. It has retarded its settlement and development to an extent unprecedented in the history of the early settlement of any of our northwestern territories. It has confined our settlers to narrow limits bordering the Missouri river; and those of necessity have had to confine their operations, for mutual safety and protection, to little towns, at intervals of a few miles, in order to retain possession of the country, it not being safe at any time for the past two years to reside at a distance from the town by reason of the prevalence of roving bands of hostile Indians, who seem ever ready to steal the horses and stock of our settlers, and kill the owners in cases where resistance is made. Our various settlements can but be looked upon as a picket guard to hold this country until such time as peace can be restored between the government and these Indians" (10).

In his next message to the Fifth Legislative Assembly, 1865–6, the Governor says, "There is now every prospect that an early, permanent, and lasting peace will speedily take place between the government and these hostile Indians."

"The campaigns in 1863 and 1864-5 by Generals Sully and Sibley against the Indians had resulted in severe chastisement, but they remained as hostile as ever. At the beginning of his term of office Governor Edmunds set about the task of pacification of the Indians, and with rare judgment and skill, eventually gained their confidence and finally became the chief factor in bringing about a permanent peace. In 1864 he visited the Poncas in person, who were on the eve of an outbreak on account of outrages committed by drunken United States soldiers. Eight innocent and friendly Poncas had been murdered without provocation by these soldiers. In this crisis the governor, by kindness and patience, reached a pacific understanding with the Indians, thus ending an imminent danger to the Dakota settlements. In 1865 Governor Edmunds visited Washington and laid his plans for pacification of the Sioux before President Lincoln. He asked sufficient funds to enable him to visit the different bands of the Sioux in person. Twenty thousand dollars were appropriated for this purpose. Governor Edmunds began his work of pacification of the Sioux in the fall of 1865, and after about a year of vigorous work his efforts were crowned with success. He went among the Sioux personally without arms and practically without military escort, and made treaties that restored peace for many years. He rendered valuable aid in
1876, when the United States Commission met the Indians to secure cession of the Black Hills. . . . The young territory was singularly fortunate in having in its executive chair at this time in its existence a man of the qualities Governor Edmunds possessed" (11).

**EXPLORATION AND SETTLEMENT OF THE BLACK HILLS.**

The thirst for gold is a motive strong enough to lead men to brave almost any danger. The settlement of California and the rush of prospectors and miners to Alaska amply illustrate this. The white man's invasion of the Black Hills and the rapid settlement of that region when its mineral resources became generally known furnish still further evidence of this fact. When the Indians were removed west of the Missouri river in 1859 little was known of the Black Hills, and no one offered any objections to this region remaining indefinitely in their hands. But when the mineral wealth of the Hills was known no force of law or ordinary military defense could keep the gold seekers from entering this region.

It was comparatively late before any definite knowledge of the Black Hills was obtained. In 1857 a military and scientific expedition under the command of Lieutenant George K. Warren visited the Hills in search of information. With this expedition was Dr. F.V. Hayden, geologist and naturalist. They secured sufficient information to know that the region was rich in minerals and constructed quite an accurate map of the entire Hills.

There is evidence that the Hills had been visited at a very early day by a party of white men. This evidence is in the form of a tablet of sandstone found near Spearfish in 1887, upon which is an inscription which tells in a few words the fate of a party entering the Hills in 1833. This stone tablet is now in the possession of John Cashner, of Spearfish. The credibility of the story told by the tablet is strengthened by letters from people in the east who, upon hearing of the discovery of such a record, have claimed to be relatives of the men making up this party. Its credibility is further strengthened by traditions among the Indians of the Hills that a band of the Sioux in early days came upon a party of whites, took their gold, and killed all but one of the party. The stone tablet in question is about twelve inches square and two and one-half inches in thickness. Upon one side it bears the following inscription rudely carved: "Came to
these Hills in 1833, seven of us DerLacompt Ezra Kind B/W. Wood W. Brown R. Kent Sm. King Indian Crow. All ded but me Ezra Kind. Killed by Inds beyond the high hill got out gold June 1834." On the other side the inscription is as follows: "Got all the gold we could carry our pony all got by the Indians. I have lost my gun and nothing to eat and Indians hunting me."

If the story of this tablet be true, this was the first visit of white men to the Hills.

In 1874 Lieutenant-Colonel George A. Custer led an exploring party to the Hills and reached the site of Custer City. He was accompanied by Professor N.H. Winchell, geologist and naturalist. One of the party, who was a practical miner, had such enthusiasm as to the prospects for gold in the Hills that he proceeded to Sioux City and forthwith organized a party to return the same year and begin mining operations. In 1875 information regarding gold in the Hills had spread to such an extent that the government deemed it necessary to send General Crook with soldiers to evict the miners already there and guard the region from further invasion. In neither of these purposes was the military expedition successful.

In 1875 the government began negotiations, at first unsuccessful, for the purchase of this region from the Indians, resulting in the treaty of 1876, and the formal opening of the Hills for legal settlement by the President's proclamation of February 28, 1877. The year 1876 saw a wonderful activity in the settlement of this section. Deadwood, Lead, Rapid City, Hill City, Spearfish, Central, Sturgis, and other places of less importance had their real origin in the settlements made this first year before the Hills were legally opened to the white men.

The reputation of the Hills in 1864 is seen in what Governor Edmunds said of this region in his message to the legislature of that year. He wrote:

"It is believed by persons familiar with the country in the vicinity of the Black Hills, that the country abounds not only with precious metals (gold and silver) but that copper, iron, and coal exist in unlimited quantities. Indeed, rich specimens of iron and copper have been brought into the settlements by friendly Indians from this section of the country, and the bed of the Niobrara river abounds with specimens of stone coal. It is believed that a thorough geological survey of that portion of the territory will establish the existence of large and rich deposits of the minerals
named above, and not only this, but this section of the country is capable of supplying for all time to come, not only our own settlers, but all north-western Iowa, with all the pine lumber needed for the future development and improvement of the country."

The first part of the prophecy has been more than fulfilled, but not the latter. The great Homestake mine is the largest gold mine in the world. This mine was purchased by its present owners in 1877, and has been in successful operation ever since. With all that has been done in the way of developing the mineral resources of the Hills, it is probably true that only a bare beginning has been made. The State of South Dakota has a rare combination of mineral and agricultural resources. The mineral resources of the Black Hills have contributed much not only toward its material prosperity in the way of taxable assets, but much more to its prestige in the money markets of the world.

THE EARLY TERRITORIAL PERIOD.

The early period of territorial life was characterized by all that goes to make up pioneer conditions—a primitive status of society, sparse settlement, absence of railroads, Indian hostilities, uncertain crop conditions, the unsettled condition of political affairs, and inefficiency of governmental machinery. This period of territorial life extended from 1862, the date of territorial organization, to 1872, the date of the advent of railroads and telegraph.

The Indian troubles from 1862 to 1868 resulted in actually driving away many settlers who had already located in the territory and in effectually frightening away nearly all prospective settlers. The population at the time the territory was organized was less than 1,800. In 1870 the population was 14,182. Not only was immigration hindered, but the industrial and political development of the territory was almost at a standstill during the greater part of this period.

In 1864 James S. Foster, then superintendent of public instruction for the territory, reported that nothing had been done toward organizing its schools. His estimate of the number of children of school age then within the territory was placed at 600. There had been no appropriation for school purposes at that time, and regular public schools were hardly thought of.
In 1866 the superintendent reported that the total value of school property in four of the most populous southern counties was $3,200, and the total number of pupils in these counties was 759, while the total tax raised for school purposes was $214.84. These figures convey some idea of what is meant by pioneer conditions, at least in educational matters.

Superintendent Foster, in his "Outlines of Territorial History," published in 1870, gives an account of a teachers' normal institute held at Elk Point in the year 1867. This was probably the first teachers' institute ever held in the territory. Superintendent Foster says of this institute:

"In the fall of 1867 a teachers' institute was held at Elk Point. Lectures were delivered before the institute by Hons. S.L. Spink and W.W. Brookings, of Yankton, and addresses by Hon. E.C. Collins and Rev. T. McK. Stewart of Elk Point, and James S. Foster, superintendent of public instruction. The number of teachers present was about twenty, and the exercises were of a highly interesting character."

During this early period of territorial development the streams of settlement followed the river valleys of the Missouri, the Sioux, and the James, in the southern part of the territory. In the north there was very little of settlement outside of the Red River Valley. The first signs of modern progress were seen in the building of a telegraph to Yankton from Sioux City in 1870, followed by a railroad in 1872. Now that settlers could be landed within the limits of the territory by the railroad, immigration poured in more rapidly.

In 1865 Congress appropriated $65,000 for the opening of a wagon road through the territory to the gold fields of the Rocky mountains. One road was constructed from Niobrara to Virginia City; another from Sioux City up the valley of the Missouri to the mouth of the Cheyenne; and a third from the Minnesota line to Cheyenne, Wyoming, to intersect the road to Virginia City, west of the Black Hills. These roads meant much to the straggling settlements in Dakota, so far removed from the centers of commerce. The most important part of this road construction was the bridging of the rivers. The building of these roads undoubtedly gave an additional impetus to the settlement of the territory, and helped to offset the damage and hindrance which the Indian troubles had caused in settlement and development.
THE MIDDLE PERIOD OF TERRITORIAL DEVELOPMENT.

The modern pioneer has gone not far in advance of the railroad. In fact, he has more frequently sought his frontier home in the comfortable coaches of the railroad than otherwise. Right Rev. W.H. Hare, missionary bishop, first of the territory and then of South Dakota, a pioneer himself in his religious work in territory and state, thus graphically describes the advent of the modern pioneer as he invaded the wide prairies of the West:

"Language cannot describe the rapidity with which these communities are built up. You may stand ankle deep in the short grass of the uninhabited wilderness; next month a mixed train will glide over the waste and stop at some point where the railroad has decided to locate a town. Men, women, and children will jump out of the cars, and their chattels will be tumbled out after them. From that moment the building begins. The courage and faith of these pioneers are something extraordinary. Their spirit seems to rise above all obstacles. I have ridden into a Dakota valley and pitched my tent. After my supper, lolling upon my buffalo robe, I have looked around and seen nothing but a wolf that looked down from a hill into the valley to see who the intruder was. When I visited that valley the next year, I saw a long train of Pullman palace cars. In that same trip I camped on the flat bottom land near the Missouri river. There was no sign of civilization there but a log hunt with a mud roof. Within the year I revisited the spot and saw a town. It has since increased to two thousand inhabitants."

The middle period of territorial life, from 1872 to 1880, was marked by the advent of railroads and by rapid settlement. In 1875 the population of the territory was not over 35,000, while in 1880 it had reached 135,177. The railroad mileage in 1880 was 689 miles. By 1873 the terminals of three railroads had been located within the territory, and this constituted all the difference between helpless isolation and relative commercial prosperity. The Dakota Southern railroad, afterwards merged with the Chicago, Milwaukee and St. Paul, entered the territory in 1872, stopping at Yankton. The same year the Winona and St. Peter crossed the territorial line, and reached Lake Kampeska in 1875. This road was later absorbed by the Chicago
and Northwestern. In 1873 the Northern Pacific reached Bismarck on its way across the continent. Its completion as a transcontinental line was not accomplished until 1883. The railroads thus joined hands with the pioneers in the preliminary work of settlement from which was to come a great commonwealth. The importance of railroads in the development of this country is nowhere more strikingly shown than in the great Middle West, a country which, without adequate facilities for rapid transportation, must have remained sparsely settled and economically insignificant.

In the latter part of this middle period the eastern counties of the southern part of the territory were recipients of a large immigration. By 1880 the tide of immigration had rolled on to the valley of the James and even reached the Missouri at Pierre and Chamberlain. Mitchell, Huron, Redfield, and Aberdeen became terminal points for the development of this central valley region. The whole southern part of the territory, east of the Missouri, was generously dotted with embryo towns and cities which in later days have become large centers of commercial and industrial activity surrounded by wealthy and prosperous farming communities.

THE LATER TERRITORIAL PERIOD.

The period from 1880 to 1899 may fairly be called the "boom" period of territorial life. There was great activity in railroad building, and the railroad mileage advanced from 689 miles in 1880 to 4,403 miles in 1889. Another characteristic feature of this period was the entrance of eastern capital into the business of the territory. This was one of the most important aids to the commercial and industrial development of the territory. The resources of Dakota had become known in the east to such an extent as to tempt capital to seek an investment in its lands and in its commercial and industrial enterprises. This meant that a large volume of immigration would follow where these new investments were sought. The products of Dakota farms had begun to reach the east and to compete in its markets with the products of eastern farms. With lowering prices for farm products, the price of eastern lands fell, and other values felt this disturbing influence. In some places land values declined from $150 per acre to less than $50. But with the lands of the west practically free to bona fide settlers, the enterprising young men of the east sought farms and homes in the western country in large numbers. These conditions served but to emphasize the opportunities and resources of the west, and during this later period settlers came to
Dakota in unprecedented numbers.

The vicious methods of the "boomer" led to unwise and worthless investments, which in time reacted most unfavorably upon the business and industry of Dakota. A series of crop failures in the later years of the decade brought discouragement and poverty to many of the people, who had undertaken to start upon slender capital. Compelled to borrow money at ruinous rates of interest, the small farmer was frequently brought to bankruptcy, and his land passed into the hands of money loaners. With the advent of artesian wells, and a more thorough knowledge of soil and climatic conditions, prosperity later returned to many sections which had suffered considerably. Back of all appearances of failure, and back of all "boom" features, there was real and substantial progress, and Dakota experienced phenomenal prosperity during this period. The population for the territory, according to the census of 1885, was 415,610, and in 1889 it was estimated at about 600,000.

It was during this later period that the political life of the territory took on large proportions and greater activity. Representation in Congress became an important matter, and the position of delegate to Congress was eagerly contested. The functions of legislation became more important, and the halls of the legislature were the scenes of some most exciting political contests. The location of the various territorial institutions was a matter of much importance, but there is not lacking evidence that sometimes these were located more because of political considerations than because of any ideas of utility and real convenience. The two universities, which were organized in territorial days and which developed into institutions of importance, very naturally became the inheritance of the states succeeding the territory, one to each of them. But, on the whole, South Dakota inherited the larger share of these institutions by virtue of their location. The removal of the capital from Yankton to Bismarck, in 1883, served to stimulate the sentiment in the southern part of the territory for the division into two states. From this date there was a strong agitation carried on for division and admission.

The educational development during the later period of the territory kept pace with its material progress. Never was a people more devoted to schools and the means of education than the people of Dakota. Private
enterprise in the establishment of schools and colleges and in maintaining
them has been most active at all times. Probably no territory in the his-
tory of this country has ever shown more devotion to the cause of education
than did Dakota.

THE MOVEMENT FOR DIVISION AND ADMISSION.

From an early period of territorial life the question of the ultimate
division of the territory was under consideration. Petitions for division
went to Congress from seven of the territorial legislatures, beginning with
the year 1871. In 1879 the action taken was in the form of a protest
against admission as one state. In 1881 a memorial was sent to Congress
asking for division into three states. From 1880 various bills were intro-
duced dealing with the question of division and admission of one or both of
the Dakotas. The capital removal in 1883 intensified the division sentiment
in the southern part of the territory, and the defeat of a bill in the legis-
lature of 1883 providing for a constitutional convention added fuel to the
flame.

It was by popular initiative that the movement for division and admi-
sion was carried to a successful issue. In the summer of 1882 a mass con-
vention was held at Canton to consider this question. The convention declar-
ed unanimously for division and the admission of the southern half of the
territory. A committee was appointed with power to call a delegate conven-
tion at Huron to consider ways and means to secure the end in view. The
Huron convention, which met in June of 1883 was thoroughly representative,
and made up of able men. It adopted an address to the people and passed an
ordinance providing for a constitutional convention to meet in September of
that year. This convention formulated a constitution which was submitted to
the people that same year and adopted by a heavy majority. Bartlett Tripp
was its president. This constitution was presented to Congress by a commit-
tee appointed by the convention, but the movement bore no fruit.

In 1885 the legislature passed a measure providing for a constitutional
convention to be held at Sioux Falls. It was then thought that statehood
was at hand. The convention met at Sioux Falls in September, and, after a
session of sixteen days, adjourned, having formulated another constitution.
A.J. Edgerton served as president of this convention. This constitution
became the basis of the final constitution adopted in 1889. It was sub-
mitted by popular vote in November of the same year, the vote standing 25,132 votes for and 6,522 against. At the same election a prohibition clause was voted upon, and carried by a vote of 15,522 in favor and 15,213 against. Minority representation was rejected by a vote of 11,256 for and 16,640 against. A full ticket of state officers was elected and also a legislature. The machinery of the proposed state was thus in full running order, and it only remained for the national government to give the word of authority to set things in motion. The provisional legislature held a meeting, listened to a message from Governor Mellette of the provisional government, and elected two United States senators. It was confidently believed that Congress would recognize what had been done and admit the state with the organization as it had been made.

When it was seen that Congress would take no action, the question was raised whether or not a state could not enter upon the functions of statehood without the authorization of Congress. This question was argued in the press and on the "stump." But radical counsel did not prevail, and the people waited four years more for the boon of statehood.

In 1889 Congress passed a bill providing for the division and admission of the territory. This was known as the "Omnibus Bill." Statehood for Montana and Washington was also a part of this measure. By the terms of this act the Sioux Falls constitution was again to be presented to the people for adoption after it had been amended in such a way as to conform to the requirements of the enabling act. The vote of the adoption of the constitution was taken October 1, 1889, and out of 69,658 votes cast only 3,247 were against the adoption of the constitution. A prohibition amendment was also adopted, but this was repealed in 1897.

At this election state officers were chosen and a full legislature elected. Pierre was chosen as a temporary capital. The following year came the capital contest for a permanent location, and in this Pierre was again successful.

The enabling act for the admission of the Dakotas, Montana, and Washington, like the Ordinance of 1787, contained articles of a compact between the states thus admitted and the United States. These articles of the compact were made irrevocable without the consent of the United States and the people of the respective states admitted by the act. The compact was as
follows:

First—"That perfect toleration of religious sentiment shall be secured, and that no inhabitant of said state shall ever be molested in person or property on account of his or her mode of religious worship."

Second—"(1) That the state shall forever disclaim all right and title to unappropriated public lands within its borders; (2) that United States public lands shall not be taxed by the state; (3) that lands belonging to a citizen of the United States residing outside of the state shall not be taxed higher than the lands of citizens of the state."

Third—"That the debts and liabilities of the territory shall be assumed and paid by the state."

Fourth—"That provision shall be made for the establishment and maintenance of systems of public schools, which shall be open to all the children of the state, and free from sectarian control."

III. STATE HISTORY.

THE CONSTITUTION.

The state constitution as adopted in 1889 is one of the most voluminous documents of its kind. It contains twenty-six articles, and embraces within its limits almost every detail of state organization, and provides for many of the features of county and township organizations. A prominent feature of the constitution is Article VI, a Bill of Rights, of twenty-seven articles, and in this is enumerated almost every one of the guarantees which obtain under modern republican government. The constitution, as thus formulated, is an instance of the tendency in modern constitution-making to embody very much of what is legitimately legislation rather than the mere statement of the form and functions of government. Opinions differ very much as to the utility of this kind of constitution. Governor Mellette said before the Constitutional Convention of North Dakota, "If you know the proper things to embrace in the constitution, the more there is in it the better. One of the greatest evils is excessive legislation—the constant change of laws every two years, and the squabbles and debates over the different questions that constantly arise." Judge T.M. Cooley of Michigan, who had been brought to North Dakota to address the Constitutional Convention on the principles and the theory of constitution-making, said, "Do not
in your constitution-making legislate too much. Leave something for the legislature. You have to trust somebody in the future, and it is right and proper that each department of the government should be trusted to perform its legitimate functions." The constitutions of both North and South Dakota are good examples of what may be called legislative constitutions. Already the wisdom of such constitutions is in question. Numerous amendments to the constitution have been submitted to the people from time to time and adopted. Thus, in the short space of a little over one decade of state life, the constitution has been modified in several important matters. The clause prohibiting the manufacture and sale of liquors, adopted at the time of the constitution, was stricken from that document by the amendment of 1897.

In 1896 the people of South Dakota adopted the initiative and the referendum as a part of the law-making mechanism, and it became a part of the constitution. South Dakota was thus the first state to adopt this important principle of modern democratic government. By the provisions of this amendment the principle of the initiative and referendum was made operative in municipalities. Although there has been no instance of the application of either of these forms of popular law-making to affairs of the state, yet in several instances they have been successfully applied to the affairs of cities. It remains to be seen what success may attend this effort to democratize the state by giving the people a limited veto power and the right of initiating legislation. It is probably true that the possibility of popular action in these ways acts as something of a check and a restraint upon legislation. In various parts of the country the necessity of the referendum and initiative is being actively urged, and numerous inquiries from time to time come to our state regarding the successful operation of these principles.

The political history of the state has been comparatively uneventful. With the advent of statehood new problems confronted the people. All territorial laws applicable to the civil and political life of the people under the state were continued. The law had been codified in 1877, and six legislatures intervened prior to statehood. A large volume of legislation has marked the legislative history of the state. In 1900 a commission was appointed to codify all state law. The committee appointed for this labor
was Bartlett Tripp, Gideon C. Moody and James Brown. The work of the commission was accepted by the legislature of 1903.

The population of the state by the census of 1890 was 328,808. The census of 1900 gave the state a total of 401,570 people, an increase of over 22 per cent in ten years. From the first South Dakota has had two representatives at Washington.

The state officers elected at the first election in the fall of 1899 were as follows: Arthur C. Mellette, governor; J.H. Fletcher, lieutenant governor; Amund O. Ringsrud, secretary of state; Lucius C. Taylor, auditor; William F. Smith, treasurer; Robert Dollard, attorney-general; Alphonzo G. Kellam, Dighton Corson, and John E. Bennett, judges of the supreme court; Gilbert L. Pinkham, superintendent of public instruction; O.H. Parker, commissioner of school and public lands. John A. Pickler and Oscar S. Gifford were elected members of Congress.

On November 2d, by the proclamation of President Harrison, South Dakota became one of the states of the union, and on that same day its legislature convened in a special session to elect two United States senators. Sutton E. Young was chosen speaker of the house, and Richard F. Pettigrew and Gideon C. Moody were elected senators. Senator Pettigrew was seated for the full term of six years, but Senator Moody drew a two-year term. At the legislature of 1890 Senator Moody failed of re-election, and James H. Kyle, of Aberdeen, was chosen as his successor. Mr. Kyle's election was accomplished by the united vote of the democratic and populist members of the legislature. This was the first important event in the history of the populist party in the state. The party was formed from the liberal elements of both the republican and democratic parties. Its origin can be directly traced to the Farmers' Alliance movement, which had gradually come to have political purposes and political influence. Mr. Robinson, in his History of South Dakota, thus describes the party struggle in the legislature which resulted in the election of Mr. Kyle as senator:

"The senatorial contest began on Jan. 20, and thirty-eight ballots were taken, terminating Feb. 16, before an election resulted. Gideon C. Moody was the republican caucus nominee for re-election. Bartlett Tripp received the democratic strength, and the independent vote was divided among several leaders. There were 169 votes on joint ballot, 85 being necessary for a choice when all members were present and voting. On the first ballot
Gideon C. Moody received 76 votes; Bartlett Tripp, 24; James W. Harden, 20; George C. Crose, 15; Alonzo Wardall, 10; Samuel W. Crosland, 9; Hugh J. Campbell, 5; H.C. Preston, 3; Z.D. Scott, 2; and Oscar S. Gifford, Eugene A. Dye, William Elliot, and Americus B. Melville, 1 vote each. The balloting continued without material change until Feb. 5, when the republicans concentrated the greater portion of their strength upon Americus B. Melville, giving him 53 votes, while 56 independent votes were on that day given to Hugh J. Campbell, Mr. Tripp retaining his original strength. On Feb. 11 the republicans again presented Mr. Moody with 67 votes, the independent strength for the first time on this day being concentrated on James H. Kyle, who received 59 votes. On Feb. 13 the republicans presented Thomas Sterling as the party candidate and gave him 64 votes, which owing to an unusual number of absentee votes on that day lacked five votes only of an election. On Sunday, Feb. 15, a number of independent members signified their intention of voting for Governor Mellette, a republican, unless an election was reached at the first ballot on Monday morning. This announcement led the democratic members to come to an agreement with the independent members to unite upon the election of Mr. Kyle, which agreement was carried out at the session on Monday, February 16, when Mr. Kyle received 75 votes, a majority of all present, thus terminating the contest."

In 1897 Senator Kyle stood for re-election, and another exciting contest occurred in the legislature. The circumstances of his former election had contributed to make him practically an independent in politics. At his second election he would have been defeated had it not been for the combined vote of the populist and republican members of the legislature. The republicans were so much in the minority that their only chance to control the election was to combine with another party. As the democrats had only nine votes on joint ballot, the only chance of an election lay in the fusion of the republican and populist parties.

At the second state election few changes occurred in the personnel of the state officers and members of Congress as elected in 1889. William Walter Taylor succeeded William F. Smith as treasurer; Cortez Salmon succeeded Gilbert L. Pinkham as superintendent of public instruction; and Thomas H. Ruth succeeded O.H. Parker as commissioner of school and public lands. John R. Gamble was elected to Congress to succeed Oscar S. Gifford.
Mr. Gamble died in the summer of 1891 before he had ever taken his seat, and John L. Jolley was chosen at a special election to fill his place.

Probably no single event in the history of the state produced more consternation and alarm than the defalcation of Treasurer William W. Taylor in 1895. He was unable to make his settlements as outgoing treasurer, rather than face the consequence he absconded with all the cash in the treasury. His defalcation footed up to about $367,000. He finally returned and surrendered himself for trial. He received the longest sentence possible under the law then existing, and served a two-year term in the penitentiary. Mr. Taylor's crime brought heavy losses upon his bondsmen, and great embarrassment to the finances of the state. Ex-Governor Mellette, as one of Treasurer Taylor's bondsmen, cheerfully surrendered all of his property to the state for his share of the liability, and then bravely faced the world again, a poor man. He removed to Kansas and engaged in the practice of the law. His death occurred in 1896, and his body was brought back to Watertown, his home city in the state, for burial. Governor Mellette was a man whose ability was respected by all, and whose honesty and sincerity were never questioned. As a politician he could rise above partisanship and stand for his convictions of right. His memory will always be cherished by the people of South Dakota.

In the election of 1896 Andrew E. Lee was elected Governor over Amund O. Ringsrud, the republican candidate. Mr. Lee, originally a republican, was one of the leaders of the populist party, and he received the combined support of populist and democratic parties. With him were elected by the populist or fusion vote, John E. Kelley and Freeman Knowles as representatives, and Melvin E. Grigsby as attorney-general. In 1898 Governor Lee was re-elected, all the remainder of the state ticket being carried by the republicans. Robert J. Gamble and Charles H. Burke at this election were chosen representatives to Congress by the republican vote.

The men who have served as governor, together with their terms of office, are as follows:

Arthur C. Mellette .................1889-93
Charles H. Sheldon .................1893-97
Andrew E. Lee ......................1897-01
Charles N. Herreid .................1901---
The state has been represented in the lower house of Congress by the following men:

Oscar S. Gifford--Elected in 1889.
James A. Pickler--Elected in 1889; re-elected successively in 1890, 1892, and 1894.
John R. Gamble--Elected in 1890, but died before taking his seat.
John L. Jolley--Elected in 1891 to fill the unexpired term of Mr. Gamble.
William V. Lucas--Elected in 1892.
Robert J. Gamble--Elected in 1894, and re-elected in 1896.
John C. Kelley--Elected in 1896.
Freeman Knowles--Elected in 1896.
Charles H. Burke--Elected in 1896, and re-elected in 1900 and 1902.
Eben W. Martin--Elected in 1900, and re-elected in 1902.

Senators from South Dakota have been elected as follows:

Richard F. Pettigrew--Elected in 1889. He drew the six-year term, and was re-elected in 1895.
Gideon C. Moody--Elected in 1889, drawing the two-year term.
James H. Kyle--Elected in 1891, and re-elected in 1897. He died July 1, 1902.
Alfred B. Kittredge--Appointed in 1902 as successor to Mr. Kyle. He was elected by the last legislature of 1903 for the term ending March 3, 1909.
Robert J. Gamble--Elected in 1901.

The rise of the populist party in the state and its accession to power under Governor Lee constitutes one of the most interesting phases of our political history. The election of Mr. Kyle as senator in 1891 came as an entire surprise. The career of the man is entirely characteristic of some phases of the political life of his country. That a man who had previously entertained no ideas of political ambition and had never made any effort at poli-
tical advancement should reach the high office of United States senator and be re-elected to that position is certainly a remarkable commentary upon the political possibilities of this country. Senator Gamble, in his memorial address before the senate of the United States upon the life and character of Senator Kyle, thus speaks of his entrance to the political arena and his relations to political parties:

"His career certainly is marked and anomalous in our political history. To have been elected, in the first instance, as the result of a compromise between two distinct party organizations; in the second, to have been opposed in the legislature by a large majority of his party associates, and the republican organization being responsible for his election, and finally giving him adherence to that party and declaring his purpose to be a republican candidate as his own successor, is a situation worthy of passing reference."

THE MESSIAH WAR.

Our state history has been marked by only one disturbance of the peaceful relations of the Indians and the white population. In 1890 the Indians of the northwest, for various reasons, were in more or less of a discontented and hostile attitude. The causes for this attitude are to be found in the following facts: (1) The crop failures for two or three years had borne with especial hardship upon the Indians. They could not, like the white man, migrate to another section or resort to other lines of employment when crop failures reduced them to poverty. (2) The Indians claimed that the national government had not fulfilled its treaty obligations with them, and that as a consequence of this they had suffered for food. The insufficiency in the supply of rations served out to the Indians was admitted by all who were conversant with the facts. (3) By the treaty of 1889, the Indians had relinquished another large area of land to settlement west of the Missouri river and east of the Black Hills. The influx of settlers to these lands, together with the narrowing of their reservation limits tended to render the Indians dissatisfied and hostile. (4) The Messiah delusion, originated and fostered by the Indians of the western coast, combined with the other influences to send the Indians on the war-path against the whites.

In 1899 a conclave of Indians, with some whites, was held near Pyramid lake in Nevada, which was attended by representatives of not less than sixteen tribes of Indians. A new religion was proclaimed, and it was announced that the Messiah had returned to them. The deception was carried out by men
masquerading as the Christ. The "new religion" was to be proclaimed to the
Indians first, the earth was to be renewed, all their dead were to be resur-
rected, and all whites who would not accept the new revelation were to be
destroyed. Implicit obedience to the commands of the returned Messiah was
demanded. Various fantastic ideas of perpetual youth and a material para-
dise upon the renewed earth were impressed upon the eager and superstitious
minds of the Indians present at this conclave. The Messiah taught them vari-
ous religious ceremonies, among which was what has been termed the "ghost
dance," a sacred dance, in which the dancer wore a shirt or hunter's frock
which was believed to become bullet proof by being sanctified.

The leading spirits among the hostiles were Sitting Bull, at Standing
Rock Agency; Hump and Big Foot, at Cheyenne River Reservation; Short Bull and
Kicking Bear, at Pine Ridge Agency. Sitting Bull was the great war chief of
these Indians and the head of the hostile movement. His runners traveled in
all directions carrying the news of the proposed rising. All the tribes in
the northwest were visited and notified to prepare for the movement. Arms
and ammunition were to be gathered, and the warriors were to meet in the
spring of 1891 near the Black Hills. The energy with which the military
arm under General Miles met this situation averted what might have been one
of the greatest Indian wars of recent times.

General Miles in his report said, "The peace of an area of country equal
to an empire was in peril. The states of Nebraska, the two Dakotas, Montana,
Wyoming, Colorado, Idaho, Nevada, and the territory of Utah, were liable to
be overrun by a hungry, wild, mad horde of savages. The old theory that the
destruction of vast herds of buffalo had ended Indian wars, is not well
founded. The same country is now covered with domestic cattle and horses,
and the Indians would have, in what they believed to be a righteous crusade,
looted the scattered homes, and lived and traveled upon the domestic stock of
the settlers. Pillage would have been followed by rapine and devastation."

Short Bull and Kicking Bear with about three thousand warriors began
the hostile movement in November, 1890, by leading their force into the Bad
Lands on the White river. They subsisted by looting the homes of both Indians
and white people. It was expected by the Indian leaders to gather all the
hostile element of their people at this appointed rendezvous, and thence
proceed on a campaign of plunder and pillage,

The attempt to arrest Sitting Bull resulted in the death of himself and seven of his warriors. Almost an equal number of the faithful Indian police, who carried out the orders for the arrest of this leader, were killed. Sitting Bull was one of the most able and shrewd of Indian leaders. He ranks with Pontiac, Tecumseh, and Red Jacket of earlier days. He was the representative and the leader of all the discontented Indians, and his whole career was characterized by hostilities to the whites. He opposed the United States in the making of the treaty of 1876. He fought General Crook and his troops that same year, and was undoubtedly present when General Custer and his command were annihilated. In 1877 he escaped to British territory, to return in 1879 and meet a severe defeat at the hands of General Miles and his troops. In 1881 he returned, voluntarily surrendered to the United States troops, and was imprisoned for two years, when he was transferred to Standing Rock Agency, where he was at the time he met his death.

Chief Hump at Cheyenne Agency was notified to come in and surrender. He readily did this, somewhat against general expectation; but Big Foot, a warrior under him, escaped with quite a following and started for the camp of Short Bull in the Bad Lands. He was intercepted near Wounded Knee creek by Major Whiteside, and forced to surrender, but not until an engagement had occurred in which thirty soldiers were killed and about 200 Indians, men, women, and children.

This unfortunate affair prolonged hostilities. Short Bull and Kicking Bear, with their hostile following, were about to return to the Agency and surrender, but upon hearing of the Wounded Knee engagement persisted in their hostile attitude. Some of their warriors, late in December, approached the Catholic Mission near Pine Ridge and set fire to one of the buildings. Troops were sent out after these Indians, and they were driven off with nothing more serious than a skirmish. This was known as the Mission Fight.

The hostility of the Indians was increased, and within a short time they made an attack upon a wagon train of the cavalry, and on January 3, 1891, attacked Capt. Carr's Troop of the Sixth Cavalry in their effort to press toward the west.

The pacific attitude of General Miles, his intimate knowledge of the Indian character, and a personal acquaintance with many of their leaders, made it possible for him to bring the Indians to see the utter futility of
war with the whites. He sent messengers among them telling them of the disposition of the government to right their wrong. While exercising the utmost vigilance, he advised the Indians of the large force of troops which hemmed them in upon all sides. Supplies of food were increased and the Indians were promised kind treatment. On the 16th of January, 1891, the hostile Indians came into Pine Ridge Agency and surrendered their guns to the number of about 700. Short Bull, Kicking Bear, and twenty warriors were taken as hostages for the good behavior and good faith of the Indians, and were sent to Fort Sheridan, Illinois. General Miles also arranged for a commission of ten of the most influential and faithful Indians to visit Washington and lay their grievances before the authorities there.

The time occupied in reaching the successful conclusion of this threatening affair was only thirty-two days from the arrest of Sitting Bull until the surrender of the entire hostile camp of about four thousand Indians at Pine Ridge Agency.

THE SPANISH WAR.

The people of South Dakota showed their martial spirit for the second time in the Spanish-American War which began in 1898. As in their first experience, at the time of the Indian War in 1862-5, their action was prompt and effective. A regiment of infantry was organized under Colonel Alfred C. Frost. The lieutenant colonel was Lee Stover, and the majors were Charles A. Howard and William F. Allison. The regiment was mustered in at Sioux Falls in May, 1898, with thirteen companies, comprising 1,008 men.

The regiment did not arrive at the scene of action in the Philippine Islands until late in August. In the Battle of Manila, which marked the opening of hostilities with the United States troops, the regiment took an active part. It had a prominent and an honorable part in the campaign to the north of the island of Luzon in the spring of 1899, the objective point of which was the capture of the insurgent capital, Malolos. The regiment was on the firing line for one hundred and twenty-three days. At the battle of Marilao, March 27, 1899, it was in the forefront of one of the most desperate charges of the entire campaign. Its record for fighting qualities was excelled by that of no organization in the Philippine War. Many acts of personal daring distinguished its members. Sergeant John Holman and Captain Clayton
Van Houten were promoted for bravery in action.

Four men of the regiment died of wounds, thirty-two died from diseases, and twenty-three were killed in action. The regiment was mustered out at San Francisco, October 5, 1899, and the members were welcomed home by President McKinley and members of his cabinet who were upon a tour through the state at the time of their arrival.

A battalion of cavalry was organized in the state by Melvin S. Grigsby, which became known as "Grigsby's Cowboys." The Cowboy Cavalry was sent to Chickamauga, the gathering point for the troops destined for the invasion of Cuba, but they were never called into active service. They were mustered out in August, 1898.

INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT OF THE STATE.

Statehood for South Dakota came in a period of industrial depression. The year in which South Dakota was admitted is known as a year of great drouth. The people of Dakota were unprepared for such an entire failure of crops as they then experienced. Having very largely devoted themselves to wheat growing, the practical failure of the entire crop that year reduced them to a condition of distress and poverty. The following year was also a year of crop failure, and these untoward conditions left the people in poor condition to meet the financial depression which spread over the entire country in 1893. The financial panic of this year bore with especial harshness upon the people of South Dakota who were just beginning to lay the foundation of prosperity. Many of the farmers had mortgages upon their land which were foreclosed in spite of all that they could do. Immense areas of land passed into the hands of eastern money loaners. There was no recovery, therefore, from the conditions of depression, resulting from the crop failures of 1889-90 until about the year 1895. Since that time there has been remarkably rapid growth in all lines and phases of industry within the state.

In 1890 the condition of the drouth victims was so serious that Governor Mellette felt constrained to appeal to the commercial centers of the eastern states for help. He first appealed to the people of the state to aid those who had lost their all in the crop failures. So unsatisfactory was the response that he personally visited some of the eastern cities to bring the situation of the Dakota farmers to the attention of the people of wealth in those centers. One of the most important features of this plan was to secure seed wheat for the farmers to use in the spring sowing. The appeal
of Governor Mellette resulted in raising nearly $40,000, which furnished an ample sum to relieve the necessities of all. One of the most urgent needs was that of fuel, and many were supplied with necessary fuel for the winter out of the funds thus raised. The Governor was much criticized for his efforts to raise money in the east on the ground that wrong impressions of the state would become current. This criticism came from many sources, but principally from those interested in the sale of farm lands and in town lot speculation. As seen from the view point of later years, Governor Mellette was entirely justified in the course he pursued, but it nevertheless cost him something in the way of political popularity.

The leading industry of the state has been and is agriculture, but mining interests have held an important place in its productive resources. In later years certain lines of manufacturing industries have gradually developed. The output of gold from the mines of the Black Hills for ten months of the year 1902 was over seven and a quarter millions of dollars. The total output of minerals in the state for 1903 is estimated at not less than $15,000,000.

The following figures of the wheat crop for the years given below serve to illustrate the development of the agricultural industry: (12)

The wheat crop of Dakota Territory for
1860 was 945 bushels.
1870 ............... 170,662 bushels.
1880 ............... 2,830,289 bushels on 265,298 acres

The wheat crop of South Dakota was for
1890 ............... 16,541,130 bushels on 2,259,846 acres.
1899 ............... 41,889,330 bushels on 3,984,659 acres.

One of the most important results of the industrial depression from 1889 to 1895 was to force farmers of the state to diversify the lines of their industry. The wheat farms of the northern and central portions of the state have been turned to more general uses. The dairy industry has since sprung into importance, and the establishment of creameries since 1895 has led to something of a revolution in the farming industry. At present there seems to be a movement by which the creamery industry is returning
again to the individual farmers, a result due in all probability to the invention of the hand separator and other machinery that can be put into use on the farm.

The large increase in bank deposits in recent years, the rapid development of all lines of industry, the increase in commercial values and ratings, the growth of towns and cities, the improvements in home surroundings, all testify to the substantial prosperity which has come to the state as it enters upon the second decade of its existence. The material resources of South Dakota are on a par with those of the neighboring states of Minnesota and Iowa, and when time shall have been given for their development the wealth and material prosperity of the state will be second to none in the Middle West.

EDUCATIONAL DEVELOPMENT AND RELIGIOUS HISTORY.

In no line has the state developed more rapidly than in education. In 1869 South Dakota entered the union with 2,978 schools and 3,971 teachers. By the report of the superintendent of public instruction for 1902 there were 4,380 schools and 5,052 teachers in the state.

The state is generously provided with institutions of higher education, both public and private. All of the state educational institutions were founded in territorial days, and the same is true of most of the private or denominational colleges. The State University, at Vermillion, was granted its charter by the first territorial legislature, in 1862, and was opened October 16, 1882. Yankton College is the earliest private institution established in Dakota. It was founded in 1881 by Rev. Joseph Ward. He came to the territory in 1868 to take charge of the Congregational church which had been organized in the early part of that year. Mr. Ward opened a private school soon after his arrival in which were taught "the English branches, with higher mathematics and languages."

Religious influences have been prominent factors in the development of South Dakota. Nearly all religious denominations are represented in the state, having entered the territory at an early day not only for the purpose of doing active religious work, but for the further purpose of establishing themselves in the early communities of what even then was believed would become a great commonwealth. It was no uncommon thing in territorial days to find several religious denominations struggling for a foothold and for existence in a small town of a few hundred inhabitants, with the idea of
holding the ground until the growth of population and material wealth created both the demand and the means for their existence.

Barring missionary work among the Indians, the Methodists are credited with being the first religious body to begin their work in South Dakota. Their work was organized at Vermilion as early as 1860. The Catholics were also early in the field. Bishop Harty, as vicar apostolic, came to Dakota in 1880 and organized a bishopric upon the basis of the missionary work of several Catholic priests who had already prepared the way for this organized movement.

The enthusiasm and devotion manifested in church work in the state, and earlier in the territory, has rarely been surpassed. Both Catholics and Protestants have been very active in establishing schools which are conducted under religious auspices, the influence of which has been widespread; and both have been active in missionary work among the Indians of the territory and the state.

CONCLUSION

Man is always prone to prophesy. The role of the prophet, however, is a difficult one. Especially is this true in these days of rapid development, when the Seven Wonders of the World have been forgotten in the contemplation of the modern wonders of everyday life which science has revealed, and the genius of industry utilized in the industrial processes of the present. The settlement of South Dakota and its industrial development are significant but characteristic movements rendered possible by the inventive genius and scientific knowledge which have revolutionized all industrial processes, and lessened the limitations which the physical environment has, in the past, imposed upon humanity. Modern improvements in transportation and communication alone have rendered possible the settlement and development of such a commonwealth as South Dakota. For the settler of Dakota forty years ago to have foreseen and predicted the remarkable development of the Middle West, which has taken place within the last generation, ought to be sufficient to entitle him to the reputation of seer and prophet.

In concluding this brief sketch of our, territorial and state history, the writer will not venture to essay the role of prophet, however tempting the opportunity. He wishes to quote from the report of a Committee on the "Mineral
and Agricultural Resources of the Territory of Dakota," made to the fifth legislative assembly in 1865. With slight paraphrase this prophecy will aptly express the hopes and ambitions which inspire the men and women of our great commonwealth today. This prophecy of the past which has already received a large fulfillment, and is now brought down to the present to await a more generous and a larger realization, was presented to the legislature by W.W. Brookings, chairman of the committee, and with such change in its phraseology as will adapt it to the language of statehood, is as follows:

"Shall we not judge of the future by the past. As regards soil, climate, beautiful uplands, rich prairies, luxuriant bottoms, productive mountain valleys, mineral wealth, navigable rivers, upon which to float out cereal products and commercial exchanges, what section of the country within the broad confines of our republic, is fairer or lovelier or richer or more inviting, as the home of the active, intelligent, and industrious citizen? Before a generation shall have passed more than a million people will be living in the valley of the Missouri alone. Pacific railroads will have been completed connecting the two oceans with their iron bands. . . . The experiences of six thousand years, and the verification of all history is pointed and conclusive that activity, prosperity, and opulence are inseparably connected with the great lines of intercourse between nations.

"South Dakota possesses within itself all the elements which are necessary to constitute a great, prosperous, and powerful state. Our rich alluvial lands will produce the corn, and the broad prairie the nutritious grasses, which are ample to feed and support cattle to supply every market in the union. The Black Hills and the mountain ranges at the sources of the Wind river, Yellowstone and Missouri are rich beyond conception in mineral resources of coal, copper, iron and gold.

"With all these elements of power surrounding us, we need but numbers, combined with industry, intelligence, and virtue to make South Dakota one of the most desirable and potent states in the union."

This prophecy of the past is destined to a yet more striking fulfillment than our history has thus far recorded, and South Dakota will then stand second to none in the sisterhood of states.

NOTES AND CITATIONS.

(3). Walker, The Making of a Nation, Scribner's, N.Y., 1901.
(6). Of this printed notice for a mass convention Dr. Blackburn writes as follows in his posthumous History of Dakota published by the State Historical Society, Historical Collections, Vol. I:--"The first document printed in Dakota was a notice, small in form but great in assumption of facts and of right. It ran: 'At a mass convention of the people of Dakota Territory, held in the town of Sioux Falls, September 19, 1858, all portions of the Territory being represented, it was resolved and ordered that an election be held for members to compose a Territorial legislature.--Dakota Democrat Print, Sioux Falls City.' The said Democrat, the first newspaper in Dakota, had not yet sent out its first number, but there was no partiality in making it the official organ of the body thus ordered elected, and that fall convened in the aforesaid town."
(7). Smith and Young, History and Government of South Dakota, Werner Company, Chicago, 1901.
(8). An exaggerated idea prevailed in the territory at a later time regarding the waterpower to be found on the Big Sioux. The Committee on Mineral, Agricultural, and Manufacturing Resources in its report to the fifth legislature in 1865-6 thus speaks of the waterpower of the Sioux:
"At Sioux Falls the Big Sioux river falls in a few rods over one hundred feet, there are three perpendicular falls, one twelve, fifteen, and twenty-one feet. Gov. Jayne speaking of this waterpower says, 'The falls on the Big Sioux furnish a motive power sufficient to drive all the machinery of the New England mills.'"
(9). Smith and Young, History and Government of South Dakota, Werner Company, 1901.
(10). House Journal, Fourth Legislative Assembly of Dakota Territory.
(12). Abstracts of the United States Census for the years 1890 and 1900. (Copied from Peterson's Historical Atlas of South Dakota, pages 166-177.)
HISTORY OF DAKOTA.

The "Land of the Dacotahs" is peculiarly rich in aboriginal traditions. A history of savage life within its borders, the origin, intermingling, war-fares, mutations, diminishment and gradual disappearance of the red races that have inhabited it since the years beyond the limits of authentication, would necessarily be tinged with the rhythm of barbaric folk-lore; and since this is true of the most prosaic of these records, it is no wonder the dealer in the imagery of fiction has found herein abundance of material for poetic exaggeration. Whether or not "it is pretty clearly established that the primitive tribes of the Northwest migrated from Eastern Asia, and in their early drifting, like sea-foam, across the northwestern waters, brought with them a glimmer of civilized history, which has long since vanished into tradition, in the chase and war-path of the wilderness," may be left to the deliberation of the professional ethnologist or the amateur in love with the study of the curious. Certain it is, that this theory has become tacitly accepted, apart from speculation as to a sufficient reasonableness of hypothesis.

...It is claimed that the Indian tribes, who inhabited this vast region at this time, were the great race of the "Sioux,"--the Hurons, Iroquois, Winnebagoes, Wyandottes, Illinois and Foxes--all families of the great Dakota nation, and at war with the whole Algonquin race of the Atlantic coast. The introduction among the Algonquins of fire-arms, steel arrows and battle axes by Canadian traders, were effectual weapons against the flint-headed arrows and wooden war clugs of the Dakotas, and the great nation, defeated and pursued by the conquerors, fled toward the regions of the setting sun. Very little is known concerning the tribes that inhabited Dakota prior to that bloody era. Tradition says that the Cheyenne (Shiens, or Dog,) Indians were once a powerful nation, and were the first race of people who migrated to the Missouri Valley; that after having been repeatedly driven down from the regions of the North, they located on a western tributary of the Red River, where their blood poured out in battle against their invading foes, mingling with the waters of the northern stream, changed its hue, and gave it the name of the blood-colored or Red River of
the North. Again they were defeated, and again they struck their tents and fled, with the bleeding remnants of their tribe, across the northern plains of Dakota, and formed a new home on a stream that enters with the Missouri from the west, which they called the Cheyenne.

"Charlevoix relates of the primitive tribes of Southern Dakota, that, nearly two centuries ago, the Iowas, Omahas and Ottoes were in this portion of the territory, and roamed and warred through the regions watered by the Des Moines, Big Sioux and James, or Dakota, Rivers, and that these tribes annually assembled in peace around their sacred council fires at the Great Red Pipestone Quarry. From here they were afterwards driven south and west by the great nation of Dakotas moving down from the North like a mighty army, and covering the whole plain with their tents and war dances."

The period of this great Indian retrogression was probably some time before the beginning of the seventeenth century. Up to that era the Dakotas had remained as one nation; but during the great war and flight from the North, they had become disbanded and dispersed into smaller parties, and in order to be distinguished from other tribes, abandoned the ancient name of "Nadsuessioux," or "Sioux," and called themselves Dakotas, or the "friendly people." Since that period, history and tradition agree in placing the Dakotas as masters of the vast region between the Mississippi and the Mountains. The Yanktons at that time inhabited the region between the James and the Big Sioux Rivers, and were known as the "tribe that lives at the end;" all the tribes to the northwest of them were called "those who came over the mountains from the sea."

In 1762, France ceded the whole northwestern territory to Spain, who in turn, in 1800, ceded it to France, by which latter government it was transferred to the United States, in 1803, for fifteen millions of dollars. The number of white inhabitants in the whole northwestern territory at that early day, is variously estimated at from one to less than five thousand, the only "footprints of civilization" from the Great Lakes to the Pacific Ocean being the small trading posts where now stand, among others, the present cities of St. Louis, Detroit, Chicago, Milwaukee, San Francisco and Astoria. Mention is made by the early navigators of the Missouri River, of seven poor families a few miles above the present city of St. Louis, which
was the only settlement of white people in the Missouri River Valley in 1803. In 1787, the territory northwest of the Ohio River, lying east of the Mississippi, was framed into a separate Territory, which in 1800 was divided into the Territories of Indiana and Illinois, and in 1805 the Territory of Michigan was established. Soon after the purchase of Louisiana from France in 1803, the territory west of the Missouri was divided, and all south of the 39th degree was called the Territory of New Orleans.

During the administration of President Jefferson, in 1804-5, Congress and the President authorized the exploration of the great unknown West, by way of the Missouri River and the Rocky Mountains, to the Northern Pacific Coast, the party to report to the Government the result of their discoveries and adventures. Thus was created the famous Lewis and Clark expedition, Captains Lewis and Clark, with a band of forty-two men, starting from St. Louis, in open sail and oar boats, on the 14th of May, 1804, upon a journey of five thousand miles through an unknown wilderness, inhabited only by wild tribes of Indians. They were the first party of American explorers to ascend the Missouri River into the land of the Dakotas, their printed Journal affording to the world the earliest written description of this great valley of the Northwest. They reached the Big Sioux River, the present eastern boundary of Dakota, on the 21st of August, 1804; on the 28th of October they arrived at the old Mandan Indian villages, above the present crossing of the Northern Pacific Railroad, and began the construction of log huts and stockades for their winter quarters. Here they passed the winter of 1804-5, and on the 7th of April, 1805, launched their boats on the river to continue their devious and perilous journey mountainward. The great Falls of the Missouri River, near the western boundary of Dakota Territory, as originally organized, were discovered on the 13th of June, and on the 12th of August, the enthusiastic little party of adventurers stood upon the summit of the great range of the Rocky Mountains, around the little spring from which came bubbling the remotest waters of the great Missouri. "They had now reached that hidden source which had never before been seen by civilized man; and as they quenched their thirst at the chaste and ice fountain,--as they sat down by the rivulet which yielded its distant but modest tribute to the parent ocean,--they felt themselves rewarded for all their labors and difficulties." Crossing the mountains on horseback, they reached the source of the Columbia, built canoes, and descended
that mighty river to the Pacific Coast, where they passed the winter of 1805-6, among the Indians, living in bark and earth huts, and speaking a jargon of languages like the natives of Indian and Tartary, from which countries many of the early Indian tribes of the Northwest are believed to have migrated.

During their westward journey, on the morning of the 27th of August, 1804, the Lewis and Clark expedition passed the mouth of the James River, when an Indian swam to their boats and informed them that a large body of Sioux were encamped in their immediate vicinity. Three men, with an interpreter, were dispatched to the Sioux camp, while the boats proceeded on about eleven miles, where, on a beautiful plain, near Calumet Bluff, above where Yankton now stands, the party encamped and waited the arrival of the Sioux. A speech and appropriate presents were prepared, and here at noon the chiefs and warriors of the Yanktons arrived, and were received in council under a large oak tree, near which the American flag was flying. Thus, nearly four-score years ago, did this little band of American adventurers first fling to the breeze of an unknown wild the flag of the American Republic, on the spot where now stands the capital of a vigorous and growing Territory, with its sturdy population of over two hundred thousand energetic souls, and on the threshold of admission to the mighty sisterhood of States.

Soon after the Lewis and Clark expedition, American traders and adventurers began to push their way into the thither unknown Northwest, establishing posts for the trade in furs with the natives. The goods for the trade with the Dakotas were brought up the river in open boats, propelled by oars and wind, and "cordalled" over the bars with long two ropes fastened to the boats and drawn by men walking along the shores. The furs and peltries were taken to the distant St. Louis market in the spring, the journeys down the upper tributaries being often made in circular boats of skins, with which the channel could be followed, regardless of the sandbars, snags and darkness. The Missouri Fur Company was established in 1808; the American Fur Company, by John Jacob Astor, of New York, in 1809, and about this time the first trading posts were established in the country drained by the Missouri River. Astor fitted out the first overland fur party in 1811, who voyaged in oar-boats up the Missouri River to the Aricka-
ree Indian villages, and thence overland across the country north of the Black Hills, through the Wind River and the Rocky Mountains to Astoria, on the Pacific Coast. The Rocky Mountain Fur Company commenced to make annual expeditions to the head-waters of the Missouri in 1826. The American Fur Company, stimulated by this competition, extended their operations, until, in 1832, it had become the controlling corporation in the whole Northwest. It is claimed that Pierre Chouteau, of this company, was the first man to run a steamboat up the Missouri River into Dakota Territory, and under his pilotship the steamers Antelope and Yellowstone, in 1832 and 1833, were the first to plow Dakota's waters. The first steamboat had ascended the Mississippi to Fort Snelling, above the present city of St. Paul, ten years prior to this, and in the same year Lord Selkirk established the oldest settlement in Dakota, on Red River, near the British boundary.

Canada passed into the control of the British government in 1763, McKenzie, of the old Hudson Bay Company, leading the first party of white men across the continent, from the Canadian border to the Pacific, north of the 54th parallel, as early as 1787.

The old Northwest boundary of 49 degrees, between the United States and the British Possessions, was proposed in the early part of the present century, a long diplomatic controversy ensuing as to the rights of discovery and occupancy of the territory south of this boundary.

The first treaty with the Indians west of the Mississippi was made by General Scott, at Davenport, in 1832, and the great Territory of Wisconsin was organized in 1836, with Burlington as the capital, at which place, in 1837, the first Legislature northwest of the Mississippi River assembled. Father De Smet, in 1840, was the first to carry the cross of religion and the seeds of agriculture to the wild natives of the Rocky Mountain regions.

Connected with this era there is a period of history comprising the earlier expeditions of Robert Campbell's fur parties to the West, and the discovery of Great Salt Lake, 1826, and of Captain Bonneville's two years of adventure in the mountains with his train of trappers, in 1833-34, and of the early trials and wanderings of the Subletts, Choteaus, Wythe, Fitzpatrick, Henry, Stuart, and many others, who long ago led their cavalcades across the vast wilds of the Northwest, when no trace of civilized settlement could be found in all the country between the Missouri River and the Pacific Ocean; also the later explorations of Nicollet and Fremont, and of
Catlin, in 1833, Pope in 1849, and the still more recent expeditions of Stevens, Warren, Harney, Hayden, Mullen, Sully, and others; while the memorable slaughter of Colonel Fetterman and his whole command west of the Black Hills in the winter of 1865-66, the perishing in a snow-storm near Fort Washworth of Captain Fields and his soldiers, together with the terrible fate of General Custer and his mounted battalion of gallant men, all form a part of the pioneer history of the great Northwest.

Not until 1834 did the first American colony emigrate to the Pacific Coast, and in 1839 the first printing press was carried beyond the mountains. In 1835 the first newspaper in the Missouri Valley was published at Dubuque, in the then Territory of Wisconsin, from which vast region of country have since been carved and organized the Territories of Iowa in 1838, Minnesota in 1849, Nebraska in 1854, Dakota in 1861, Idaho in 1863, Montana in 1864; while still farther to the west, beyond the mountains, have been framed the Territories of Oregon in 1848, and Washington in 1853.

By act of Congress in 1849, a portion of Dakota was included within the boundaries of the newly organized Territory of Minnesota, which had hitherto remained a portion of the old county of St. Croix, in Wisconsin Territory. In 1851, at Traverse-de-Sioux, Minnesota, was consummated the memorable treaty between the United States and the upper bands of Dakota Indians, by the provisions of which the Government became possessed of the first acre of land in Dakota, to which the Indians had relinquished their title. It embraced a strip of land in the upper valley of the Big Sioux River, covering the present towns of Sioux Falls, Flandreau and Medary, including that portion of territory lying between the Big Sioux and the Minnesota State line and taking in the western shores of Big Stone Lake.

In the same year the Minnesota Legislature divided their Territory into nine counties, one of which (Dakota County) covered all the country lying between St. Paul and Yankton, constituted the Sixth Council district, and was entitled to two Councillmen and one Representative in the Minnesota Legislature. In 1854 the Territory of Nebraska was organized, and included a large portion of that country which is now in Dakota, beyond the Running Water, at which time there was not a white settler on the Dakota side of the Missouri River. The Harney treaty was consummated in 1855, and his forces
marched from the Platte to the Missouri, and encamped for the winter at Fort Pierre. The command consisted of about 1,200 men, among the officers being the heroic Lyon, who fell in the war for the Union; Captain Gardner, a rebel general in the Southern army, and Captain J.B.S. Todd, the first Delegate to Congress from Dakota. In 1856, old Fort Lookout was occupied by the Government troops, and General Harney made his headquarters there; but early in the spring, he selected the site and commenced the erection of Fort Randall, where, in June of the same year, the two first companies of soldiers were landed by steamboat.

During the same season, Captain Sully, at the head of two companies, marched across the plains from Fort Abercrombie for the purpose of relieving a portion of the command at Fort Pierre, at which point he remained until 1858, and then recrossed the country to Fort Ridgely. Lyon remained in charge of Fort Lookout until the summer of 1858, when both Pierre and Lookout were abandoned, and with the exception of a few companies, stationed at Fort Randall, the military forces were removed from the frontiers to other parts of the country. During these early military movements, Lieutenant Warren and Dr. Hayden were prosecuting their scientific investigations in the mysterious regions of the Black Hills and Bad Lands, while no perceptible settlements had penetrated the Upper Missouri Valley, and the soil of Dakota was yet unbroken by the hand of civilized agriculture. A few adventurous pioneers had, however, entered the wilds and built cabins in the Indian country, preparatory to the consummation of the proposed treaties.

In the spring of 1857, the Interior Department sent A.S.H. White, an attache of the Indian Bureau, to visit the Yankton Indians, for the purpose of inducing them to send a delegation to Washington, with a view to negotiating a treaty ceding their lands, in what is now Southern Dakota, to the government. White’s mission was unsuccessful, and in the fall of the same year, Capt. J.B.S. Todd, of Fort Randall, at the request of the Department, securing the services of Charles F. Picotte, who had great influence with the Indians, and who still resides at the Yankton Agency, succeeded in his enterprise, and early in the winter of 1857, started to Washington with the Yankton chiefs, accompanied by Mr. Picotte, as interpreter. April 19, 1858, a treaty was made with these Indians, by which they ceded to the United States all the lands owned, possessed, or claimed by them, wherever sit-
uated (except 400,000 acres, embracing their present Reservation) and described as follows:

"Beginning at the mouth of the Te-han-kas-an-data, or Calumet, or Big Sioux River; thence up the Missouri River to the Pa-hah-wa-kan, or East Medicine Knoll River; thence up the said river to its head; thence to the head of the main fork of the Wan-dush-ka-for, or Snake River; thence down said river to its junction with the Te-han-san-san, or Jaques River, or James River; thence in a direct line to the northern point of Lake Kampska; thence along the northern shore of said lake and its outlet to the junction of the said outlet with the said Big Sioux River; thence down the Big Sioux River to its junction with the Missouri River. And they also cede and relinquish to the United States all their right and title to and in all the islands in the Missouri River, from the mouth of the Big Sioux River to the mouth of the Medicine Knoll Creek."

In consideration therefore the United States agreed to pay to them, or to expend for their benefit, the sum of $65,000 per annum for ten years; $40,000 per annum for and during ten years thereafter, $25,000 per annum for and during ten years thereafter, and $15,000 per annum for and during twenty years thereafter, making in all $1,600,000 in annuities in the period of fifty years.

The following chiefs signed the treaty:


Immediately after the ratification of this treaty, A.H. Redfield, of Detroit, Mich., was appointed Agent for the Indians, and arrived in the Territory early in July. Buildings were at once erected on the site of the
present Agency, and the Indians were all located on the Reservation before winter. As soon as the Indians were removed, settlers began to come in rapidly, locating principally on Big Sioux Point, Elk Point, Vermillion and Yankton. The earlier locations by the Western Town Company, of Dubuque, and the Dakota Land Company, of St. Paul, Minn., at Sioux Falls, in 1857; by the latter Company at Medary, Flandreau and Emineza, in the same year; and the pioneer locations elsewhere in Southeastern Dakota, beginning with those of 1857, are treated of at length in their proper places in this History. The tracing of the progress of events in these early settlements, through the adventurous vicissitudes precedent to the populousness and prosperity of the present time, the details of hardships and struggles, the Provisional Government and the days of Squatter Sovereignty, form a very considerable portion of the task before us.

Here begins the date of permanent settlement in Dakota, when the retreating red race looked back upon the advancing sentinels of civilization, who had come to subdue the wilds and adorn the rivers with thriving villages. And here commences the written history of Dakota's white race, established in a land where "wild tribes of men have marched their armies over towns and fields, and fierce battles have been fought where, ere long, churches may rear their spires, and plough-shares turn furrows amidst the graves of buried races, and children play, perhaps, where generations of children have played before." A decade in the Northwest is a century among the older civilization of the East.

On the 8th of November, 1859, the settlers at Yankton held a meeting with D.T. Bramble as Chairman, and M.K. Armstrong, Secretary, and adopted a memorial petitioning Congress for a Territorial organization. A similar meeting was held at Vermillion on the 9th of the same month, at which J.A. Denton presided, and James McHenry was Secretary. In the meantime the people of the Sioux Falls settlement were similarly active. But the prayer of the people was unheeded, and amid the tumultuous preparations for a Presidential election, and the muttering throes of a Southern rebellion, Congress adjourned, leaving Dakota ungoverned and unorganized. Not to be discouraged by this partial failure, the pioneers assembled again in mass convention at Yankton, December 27, 1860, and again on January 15, 1861, and prepared earnest memorials to Congress, which having been signed by five hundred and seventy-eight citizens, were forwarded to the Speaker of
the House of Representatives and to the President of the United States Senate. Congress at last granted the prayer of the petitioners; the Organic Act was passed in February, 1861, and approved by President Buchanan on the 2d day of March, 1861, thus giving to Dakota a Territorial government. The Territory being at that time so far removed from railroads and the telegraph, the news did not reach Yankton until eleven days after the passage of the law.

Under the new boundaries, the Territory, at that time, comprised all of the present Territory of Montana and the eastern slope of Idaho, and contained about 350,000 square miles, being bounded on the north by the British line, east by Minnesota and Iowa, south by the Iowa line, and the Missouri, Niobrara and Turtle Hill Rivers, up and along the 43d parallel of latitude, to the Rocky Mountains; thence along their snowy range to British America. Some 70,000 square miles of this territory was situated east of the Missouri River, and constituted that country which had been trimmed off from the State of Minnesota in 1858; while a vast expanse of the new Territory, reaching from the Missouri to the Rocky Mountains, was carved out of the old Territory of Nebraska, as formed in 1854. Dakota, thus established, constituted the largest organized Territory in the United States, and afforded a river navigation of not less than 2,000 miles.

In the month of June, the Federal officers of the Territory arrived, and entered upon the discharge of their duties. William Jayne, of Illinois, was the first Governor; John Hutchinson, of Minnesota, Secretary; Philemon Bliss, of Ohio, Chief Justice; L.P. Williston, of Pennsylvania, and J.L. Williams, of Tennessee, District Judges; W.E. Gleeson, of Maryland, United States Attorney; W.F. Shaeffer, United States Marshal; George D. Hill, of Michigan, United States Surveyor-General; W.A. Burleigh, of Pennsylvania, United States Agent for the Yankton Indians; H.A. Hoffman, of New York, Agent for the Ponca tribe.

A census was taken showing the population of the Territory to be two thousand, four hundred and two, and on the 13th of July the first proclamation of the Governor was issued, dividing the Territory into judicial districts and assigning the judges thereto. On the 29th of July, 1861, the second executive proclamation was issued, dividing the Territory into legis-
lative districts, and appointing the 16th day of September for a general
election to choose a Delegate in Congress, members of the Legislature and
county officers.

And now for the first time the hardy pioneers of Dakota had to do
with the perplexing questions of politics. Captain J.B.S. Todd appeared
as the independent candidate for Delegate in Congress; a convention held
at Vermillion in June nominated A.J. Bell as the Union candidate; while
C.P. Booge declared himself as the people's candidate. Todd was supported
by the Dakotaian, a newspaper, at Yankton, and Bell by the Republican
at Vermillion, while Booge relied upon his stump speakers and fast horses.
Election came and passed; five hundred and eighty-five votes were cast in
the Territory, of which Todd received three hundred and ninety-seven,
Booge one hundred and ten, and Bell seventy-eight. The Board of Territorial
Canvassers therefor issued to Todd the certificate of election as first
Delegate to Congress from Dakota. The Legislature chosen at the same
election, consisting of nine members of the Council and thirteen members of
the Lower House, was convened by the Governor at Yankton, March 17, 1862,
and perfected its organization by the selection of J.H. Shober, President,
and James Tufts, Secretary of the Council; and George M. Pinney, Speaker,
and J.R. Hanson, Chief Clerk of the House. A creditable code of laws for
the Territory was enacted, the capital located by law at Yankton, and the
Pembina settlement given a representation of three legislators. The con-
test over the location of the capital grew so threatening that the Gover-
nor ordered a squad of armed United States soldiers into the House to pre-
vent violence to Speaker Pinney. The next day Pinney resigned, and J.L.
Tiermon was chosen Speaker. The Legislature adjourned May 15, 1862, having
been in session sixty days.

During the winter of 1861-62, in the midst of the Rebellion, the
Secretary of War authorized the enlistment of Company A, Dakota Cavalry,
which organization, consisting of ninety-six men, was mustered into the
United States service, April 19, 1862, with Nelson Miner as captain; and
in the following winter, Company B, Dakota Cavalry, consisting of eighty-
eight men, was mustered into the United States service, with William Tripp
as captain.

In March, 1862, during the breaking up of the Missouri River, that
great stream became gorged with ice below the mouth of the Dakota River,
and the waters were thrown over the banks, covering nearly the whole valley for sixty miles to Sioux City. The settlers were driven from their homes by the floods, and were obliged to flee to the high lands, with their families and their herds, for safety. The preceding winter had been one of terrible storms and drifting snows, causing much suffering in the poorly constructed houses of the pioneers, and in some cases death from freezing; while the great prairie fires of the previous autumn had brought much disaster to property and danger to life. The season of 1862 following, however, proved to be one of comparative prosperity to the husbandman; the harvests were bountiful, immigration increased, and towns and villages sprang to view along the wooded streams.

The second general election was held September 1st, 1862. - Gov. Jayne and General Todd were opposing candidates for Congress. Politics were discarded, and they entered the field as Union candidates, accompanied by two corresponding tickets for territorial offices and members of the Legislature. Eight hundred and sixty-seven votes were polled in the Territory, of which Jayne received four hundred and eight and Todd three hundred and seventy-five. Todd contested the seat of Jayne before the United States House of Representatives, and was awarded the seat as Delegate in that body, upon a basis of three hundred and forty-five votes for Todd, and two hundred and forty-six for Jayne.

On the 30th day of August, 1862, the inhabitants were startled by the alarming news that the Sioux Indians of the adjoining state of Minnesota had broken out in bloody war against the whites, and that several hundred defenceless men, women and children had been savagely murdered in their homes. This fearful tale of slaughter, coupled with the report that the revengeful army of red men, reeking with innocent blood, was moving westward to attack the weak and defenceless settlements of Dakota, could not but cast terror and tears around the hearthstone of many a home in the territory. Here these people had planted their humble abodes in the Wild West, and with scanty means, but with industry and frugality, they were perfecting, day by day, their little homes of peace and comfort.

The Governor immediately issued a proclamation, calling into armed service all citizens of the Territory subject to military duty, to protect
the frontier homes and families against the expected attack. Some four hundred citizens of the Territory responded to the Governor's proclamation, left their fields and work-shops, and formed themselves into hastily organized military companies, furnishing their own fire-arms, subsistence and clothing. Fortifications were speedily thrown up in the principal towns, and all the farming settlements on the Missouri slope were quickly abandoned for safety, while others took refuge in the stockades at the towns, to unite with the villagers in mutual protection. Two citizens of Sioux Falls were murdered near the village; one citizen was murdered and others wounded at the Dakota River ferry, within three miles of the capital; the United States mail carrier between Sioux Falls and Yankton was waylaid and robbed; a stage driver on the public highway, near Choteau Creek, was shot dead; and between Vermillion and Yankton a skirmishing war-party for a time prevented travel upon the stage-road. At Yankton all the inhabitants of the surrounding country had assembled for defence within the barracks of the town. Within these rude walls the citizens remained under arms day and night, until United States troops began to arrive, and the Indians had retreated from the embargoed settlements. The farmers then ventured back to their damaged harvests and scattered herds. Company A, Captain Miner, and Company B, Captain Tripp, were stationed for the winter among the settlements.

The second session of the Territorial Legislature commenced on the 1st of December. The lower House was in session seventeen days before a permanent organization could be effected, the Governor withholding his message meanwhile. The Council organized permanently on the first day of the session, by the selection of Enos Stutsman, President, and James Tufts, Secretary. The House formed a temporary organization by the election of A.J. Hazian, Speaker, and B.M. Smith, Chief Clerk. Ten days were consumed over contested seats, when, upon the ground of an objectionable decision by the Speaker, six members withdrew from the House, leaving that body without a quorum. The six members returned on the sixteenth day of the session, and the House was permanently organized by the election of M.K. Armstrong, Speaker, and Robert Hagaman, Chief Clerk. The following day the Governor's message was received, and the session proceeded in harmony.

During the summer of 1862, the first discovery of gold had been made in Western Dakota, on the eastern slope of the Rocky Mountains, within the
limits of the present Territories of Idaho and Montana; and on the 3d of the following March, 1863, Congress constructed the new Territory of Idaho, comprising all that portion of Dakota west of the 27th degree of longitude, passing northward through the Black Hills, and near the mouth of the Yellowstone River. Over twelve thousand people emigrated to the mountain mines of Idaho in 1863, and in May, 1864, the new Territory of Montana was framed out of Eastern Idaho, with a population of ten thousand people, and a yearly product of seven million dollars in gold.

The spring of 1863 had opened with discouraging prospects to the settlers in Southern Dakota. The fear of a long and disastrous Indian war was still prevalent among the people. The settlements were again unguarded and defenceless; no military protection was afforded by the commander of the district until a daring murder was committed by a war-party of Indians on a public highway within three miles of the capitol, and whole settlements of industrious farmers had abandoned the Territory with their families and herds.

In June, 1863, the Government dispatched to the Territory two thousand mounted troops, under General Sully, who pursued and punished the Indians at the battle of Whitestone Hills, and afterwards returned to garrison the frontier settlements for the winter. Fort Sully was built and garrisoned as the most frontier military post in the Territory. The Santee and Winnebago tribes of Indians were removed, during the same season, from Minnesota and located upon reservations in Dakota. Eighteen large steamboats passed up the Missouri River into the Territory the same season, being engaged in transporting freight for the soldiers and Indians, and mills and machinery for the mines in the Rocky Mountains.

Dakota's population was augmented in the spring of 1864, by a colony from the State of New York, headed by Hon. J.S. Foster, nearly all of whom located in the Missouri Valley.

In June of this year, General Sully led his second military expedition through the Territory, to punish the tribes which were still on the war-path. One of his steamers made the first trip up the Yellowstone River to near mouth of the Big Horn, carrying supplies for the troops. His command numbered about two thousand five hundred men, and notwithstanding
detachments of troops were left in his rear to protect the settlements, the United States mail stage was attacked and a murder committed almost within signal-shot of a garrison. A whole family of innocent and defenceless children were horribly butchered by the Indians at St. Helena, twelve miles below Yankton. The season of 1864 was a sad one for the settlements. Not only did lurking Indians hang upon the border for robbery and rapine, but unremitting drought and clouds of grasshoppers swept the bloom from the fields and verdure from the plains, and with the approach of autumn, the despondent farmers repaired with their teams to the neighboring States, to bring in supplies upon which to subsist until another harvest-time. The prospects for the future were indeed gloomy, and many of the earliest settlers abandoned the Territory for the purpose of making homes elsewhere.

On the 11th of October occurred the third Congressional Election, wherein W.A. Burleigh and J.B.S. Todd were opposing candidates for Delegate, running substantially upon the same political platform. But little interest was manifested, and a small vote was polled. Indians, grasshoppers and continued misfortunes had abated the political and agricultural ardor of a despondent people. Six hundred and seven votes were polled, of which Burleigh received three hundred and eighty-six and Todd two hundred and twenty-two. Burleigh was therefor duly declared by the canvassers to be elected as the third Delegate in Congress. The annual message of Governor Edmunds to the Legislature, in December, recited in full the misfortunes and losses of the past year, but predicted a more encouraging future.

The spring of 1865 gave promise of a prosperous future to the Territory. Eighty-five thousand dollars had been appropriated by Congress for the opening of wagon roads through the Territory to the Rocky Mountain gold mines. Col. James A. Sawyers was appointed Superintendent to construct the road from Niobrara to Virginia City, with $50,000; Col. G.C. Moody was assigned to the road from Sioux City up the Missouri Valley to the Great Cheyenne, with $25,000; and W.W. Brookings, with $30,000, was selected to construct a road across Dakota from the Minnesota line, out to Cheyenne, to intersect with the Sawyers route, west of the Black Hills. The first permanent bridges were built over the Big Sioux, Vermillion and Dakota Rivers.

In June, Gen. Sully led his third expedition up the Missouri Valley into the Indian country, and with the exception of the Brule Creek Massacre
in August, peace and safety generally prevailed throughout settled portions of the Territory. The season was a favorable one for the farmers, and the fields yielded a bountiful harvest. Schools were numerous established throughout the Territory, and the erection of an Episcopal church was begun at Yankton. The Supreme Court of Dakota held its first session at Yankton, on the 6th day of July, 1865.

With the opening of spring in 1866, the three years' war with the Indians was declared at an end, and a Board of Peace Commissioners, to form treaties of perpetual peace and friendship with the wild tribes of Sioux on the Missouri River, was sent out by the Government, Governor Edmunds, of Dakota, being one of the Commissioners, and M.K. Armstrong, Secretary. The Commission left Yankton by steamboat in May, and ascended the Missouri above the mouth of the Yellowstone, into Montana, returning in August, having spent nearly four months in holding councils and making treaties with nearly all the wild tribes on the upper river.

In the autumn the regular Congressional election occurred. Dr. W.A. Burleigh and W.W. Brookings were opposing candidates. Burleigh ran on the "Johnson" platform—Brookings as a straight Republican. The total vote was eight hundred and forty-six, of which Burleigh received five hundred and ninety-two, and Brookings two hundred and fifty-four, indicating a population of about five thousand. The previous year, the first assessment of personal property in the Territory had been made, the returns exhibiting a valuation of one hundred and fifty-eight thousand, nine hundred and sixty-three dollars.

There was a steady and increasing growth in 1867 and 1868; new counties were organized, towns and villages increased, immigration was renewed, the land surveys were extended into the Red River Valley, and the Territory, for the first time, began its career of permanent progress. The first railroad to Sioux City, Iowa, was completed in 1868, near the eastern line of Dakota. The Union Pacific railroad was also completed through southwestern Dakota, and the territory of Wyoming was created therefrom by act of Congress. Prior, however, to the separation of Wyoming from Dakota, the fifth congressional election had been held in the autumn of 1868, whereat the united vote of the two Territories was 4,661; S.S. Spink received
1,424; J.B.S. Todd, 1,089; M. Toohey, 878; W.A. Burleigh, 697; J.P. Kidder, 591. Spink was therefore declared elected.

Governor Faulk's annual message to the Legislature that winter revealed a very satisfactory condition of the growth, prospects and finances of the territory. The great Sioux Indian Treaty had been made, and the Black Hills country set apart as a reservation for the various tribes of Sioux. The white population of Dakota had increased forty-two per cent. Over one thousand farms had been located by immigrants under the homestead and pre-emption laws. The harvests were bountiful, and found ready sale by reason of the constant demand to supply the new Indian agencies and military posts on the upper river. Immigration pressed into the territory as never before, selecting homes in the southern counties, on the streams, and at the close of the year the population of the territory was estimated at twelve thousand.

With the opening of 1869, the stream of immigration to the southern counties continued to pour in; navigation on the Missouri River far exceeded that of any former season; many large and substantial blocks of buildings were built in the various towns, and handsome church edifices and commodious school houses began to take the places of the rude structures of earlier days. Merchants and mechanics prospered, and the farmers were favored with abundant harvests, although in some localities the great prairie fires of autumn laid waste much valuable property.

During 1869 and 1870 several unsuccessful attempts were made to secure the building of a railroad along the Missouri Valley, through the counties of Clay, Union and Yankton, a line of road having been surveyed and a mile or two graded to Elk Point; but no aid being given by congress, the project was temporarily abandoned. The first telegraph line in the Territory was built in the fall of 1870, leading from Sioux City, Iowa, to Yankton. Seven newspapers were published in the Territory, each Republican in politics.

The fifth congressional election took place in October, 1870, W.A. Burleigh, S.L. Spink and M.K. Armstrong being the candidates. Three thousand, three hundred and two votes were polled, of which Armstrong received one thousand, one hundred and ninety-eight, Burleigh one thousand, one hundred and two, and Spink one thousand and two. Armstrong was declared duly elected. At the assembling of the legislature in December, the mes-
sage of Governor Burbank pronounced the Territory on the high road to prosperity. The national census of 1870 showed the population of Dakota to be fourteen thousand, one hundred and eighty.

The succeeding two years were marked by continued prosperity and renewed activity in the matter of railroad building. Over two hundred miles of railroad were built in Dakota in 1872. In October of the same year occurred the sixth congressional election. G.C. Moody, W.W. Brookings and M.K. Armstrong were the candidates. The total vote of the Territory was forty-five hundred and ninety-nine, indicating a population of about twenty-three thousand people. Armstrong received two thousand and three, Moody fifteen hundred and ninety four, and Brookings one thousand and two. Mr. Armstrong was declared elected.

The year 1873 opened with most encouraging prospects. The railroad to the capital had been completed, and with spring navigation the government freights for the upper military posts and Indian agencies were shipped by rail to Yankton, and there transferred to steamboats to be transported up the river. The season propitious to the husbandman and the yield of wheat and other grains was so large that for the first time in the history of the Territory, considerable shipments were made to eastern markets. During 1873 and 1874 grain raising was established as the principle feature of farming in Dakota, and additional flouring mills were erected in different parts of the Territory. The new forest culture law of Congress had done much toward settling up the prairie countries, while the recent discovery of gold in the Black Hills by General Custer's army had attracted large numbers of miners to Western Dakota. With the gathering of the harvests of 1874, it was demonstrated that the soil and climate of Dakota, rendered it one of the finest wheat-growing regions of the whole West, and the grain was eagerly sought by eastern buyers.

In October came the seventh congressional election in the Territory. Judge J.P. Kidder and M.K. Armstrong were the candidates. Nine thousand, five hundred and eighteen votes were returned, indicating a total population of nearly fifty thousand.—The certificate was awarded to Kidder.

(Copied from pages 9-28 in History of Southeastern Dakota Its Settlement and Growth... , 1881.)
REFERENCES FOR SOUTH DAKOTA HISTORY

The references which follow are for South Dakota in general and for the southeastern older part of the state in particular. The list does not pretend to be complete but it does include most to be found - especially those at the State University at Vermillion, State College at Brookings, the State Historical Society at Pierre, and the Sioux Falls Public Library.

At the end will be found specific references to the history of the county.

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13 "The Land of Promise" - Southern Dakota as It Is. Resources and Development of the Proposed State (Chicago, 1883).
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Secondary Works

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21 Bailey, Dana R., History of Minnehaha County (Sioux Falls, 1899).
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30 Derleth, August, The Milwaukee Road, Its First Hundred Years (New York, 1948). This has a little on the counties the railroad serves.
31 Dick, Everett N., Sod House Frontier, 1854-1890 (New York, 1938).
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37 Gering, John J., After Fifty Years (Pine Hill Printery, 1924). This is a brief discussion of the history and activities of the Swiss-German Mennonites from Russia who settled in South Dakota in 1874.
38 Goodspeed, Weston Arthur, The Province and the States, vols. 6-7 (Madison, Wis.).
39 Hanson, J.M., The Conquest of the Missouri (Chicago, 1909).
40 Hanson, Joseph Mills, South Dakota in the World War, 1917-1919 (Pierre, 1940).
41 Holley, Frances Chamberlain, Once Their Home (Chicago, 1890).
42 Hunkins, Ralph V. and John Clark Lindsey, South Dakota; Its Past, Present and Future (New York, 1932).
43 Johnson, Willis E., South Dakota, a Republic of Friends (Mitchell, 1923).
45 Lamar, Howard Roberts, Dakota Territory, 1861-1889 (New Haven, Conn., 1956).
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50 Peterson, E.F., Historical Atlas of South Dakota (Chicago, 1904).

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59 South Dakota Fifty Years of Progress, 1889-1939 (Sioux Falls, 1939).

60 South Dakota WPA Writers' Project, A Selected List of South Dakota Books (1943).

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67 South Dakota Historical Collections (Aberdeen and Pierre).
68 South Dakota Historical Review (Pierre, 1936-1937).

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70 Annual Reports of the Territorial Governors of Dakota to the Secretary of the Interior, 1862-1890.
71 Annual Reports of the Territorial and State Auditors: Dakota, 1870-1889.
72 House and Senate Journals of the Territorial Legislatures of Dakota, 1862-1888.
73 Messages of the Territorial Governors of Dakota, 1862-1888.
74 Report of the Board of Railroad Commissioners of the Territory of Dakota (Fargo, Dakota Territory, 1886).
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193-198, 231-235, 311-315, 345-347, 376-381, 412-414. This is the best account of military operations in southeastern South Dakota, 1862-1865.

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91 Kumlien, W.F., and others, Characteristics of Farm Families in Counties as Related to Tenure and Relief Status in -- County (S.D. State
College, 1942). Separate bulletins were issued for Brookings, Brule, Kingsbury, and Sully counties.

92 Kumlien, W.F., and others, The Emerging Rural Communities of -- County (S.D. State College, 1942). Separate bulletins were issued for Brookings, Brule, Clay, Douglas, Edmunds, Kingsbury, Marshall, Moody, and Sanborn counties.

93 Kumlien, W.F., and others, The Problem of Declining Enrollment in the Elementary Schools of -- County (S.D. State College, 1940-1942). Separate bulletins were published for most counties, including Aurora, Beadle, Bon Homme, Brookings, Brown, Brule, Charles Mix, Clay, Codington, Davison, Douglas, Hanson, Hutchinson, Lincoln, McCook, Minnehaha, Turner, Union, Yankton, and many others.

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97 Searight, Walter V. and Elmer E. Meleen, Rural Water Supplies in South Dakota (W.P.A., S.D. State College, 1940). A survey was made of each county.

98 South Dakota Crop and Livestock Reporting Service (Sioux Falls, 1950). Each county has a separate report in this Agricultural Statistical Series.

99 United States Community Improvement Appraisal, an Evaluation of the Federal Emergency Works Program for South Dakota (S.D. State Planning Board, Brookings, 1938). This gives a report of each improvement made in the communities concerned, together with the cost of each and an appraisal of the work. It includes reports of the following counties and towns: Beadle, Buffalo, Jerauld, Moody, Aberdeen, Brookings, Chamberlain, Huron, Madison, Marion Junction,
Mitchell, Plankinton, Salem, Sioux Falls, Springfield, Trent, and Watertown.

100 Water Resources of the -- River Drainage Basin (S.D. State Planning Board, Brookings, 1937). Separate volumes were issued for the Big Sioux, the James, and the Vermillion river basins. Considerable data may be found for the counties in each basin.

101 Wi-iyohi (Monthly bulletin of the S.D. Historical Society, Pierre, 1947-). This often contains short articles of historical interest.

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105 History of Southeastern Dakota... (Sioux City, 1881). This contains numerous short sketches of business men of the period, as follows: Brookings 25, Canton 20, Dell Rapids 24, Eden 9, Egan 12, Elk Point 26, Elton 3, Flandreau 42, Huron 22, Lennox 14, Madison 44, Marion Junction 6, Parker 16, Scotland 22, Sioux Falls 120, Springfield 18, Valley Springs 11, Yankton 113, Vermillion 46, Volga 41, Watertown 61.

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Many hundreds of biographical sketches are found in Doane Robinson's volumes (see #55). Other hundreds are found in Kingsbury and Smith's five volumes (see #44).

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South Dakota in World War II (World War II History Commission, 194-). This contains about 10.8% of all persons living in the state. It has brief biographies of those who died in combat, men and women in the armed services, those in the State Guard and the Red Cross, together with an excellent index.

South Dakota Manual (Pierre, 19--). This biennial so-called Blue Book contains pictures of all state officials and legislative members with short sketches of each. An index of all legislative members, 1889-1951, also appears in the South Dakota Historical Collections, Vol. XXV, pp. 413-460. It gives the address of each, the political party affiliations, the years of service in the senate or the house.

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Chamberlain, Custer, Deadwood, Gregory, Hot Springs, Huron, Lead, Lemmon, Madison, Martin, Mitchell, Mobridge, Pierre, Rapid City, Sioux Falls, Spearfish, Sturgis, Vermillion, Watertown, Winner, and Yankton. Very short histories of two to ten lines are given for each county.

Place Name References

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135 Some worthwhile material relating to the county may be found in the following references keyed to the numbers on the preceding pages: 4 5 6 10 13 16 19 20 23 25 26 27 28 29 30 31 32 34 35 37 39 40 41 42 44 45 46 47 48 49 52 53 55 56 57 58 59 61 62 64 65 66 67 68 69 73 74 75 77 78 79 80 81 82 83 84 85 86 87 88 89 93 96 97 98 100 101 102 103 104 106 107 108 109 110 111 112 113 114 115 116 117 119 120 121.
1743 The Verendrye party buried a lead plate near Fort Pierre.
1750 About this date Teton Sioux arrived in Big Sioux and James Valleys.
1803 The Louisiana Purchase area was bought by the United States.
1804 Lewis and Clark passed up the Missouri, returning in 1806.
1813 Fort Manuel, built in 1812, was destroyed near North Dakota line.
1817 LaFramboise began at Fort Pierre first continuous settlement.
1831 The first steamboat, the Yellowstone, reached Pierre area.
1837 A smallpox scourge killed hundreds of Indians, notably Mandans.
1838 Nicollet and Fremont visited eastern South Dakota; again in 1839.
1845 About 100 Mormons spent the winter at Fort Vermillion on the Missouri.
1851 The eastern edge of South Dakota was bought at Traverse des Sioux.
1857 Settlements were begun at Medary, Flandreau, and Sioux Falls.
1857 Fort Randall was completed and was occupied by troops until 1884.
1858 A provisional territorial government was organized at Sioux Falls.
1859 The towns of Yankton, Vermillion, and Bon Homme were begun.
1861 On March 2 Dakota Territory was created; Dr. Jayne, governor.
1862 August, Sioux Outbreak in Minnesota; settlers fled in panic.
1872 First railroad arrived at Yankton; 1873 at Lake Kampskea.
1874 Gold was discovered in Black Hills by Custer expedition.
1877 Great Dakota Boom of settlement began, lasting a decade.
1879 Much railroad building began in the East River country.
1883 Territorial capital removed from Yankton to Bismarck, N.D.
1883 Constitutional conventions at Sioux Falls, 1883 and 1885.
1889 On November 2, South Dakota and North Dakota were admitted.
1890 Year of Messiah War, battle of Wounded Knee; Sitting Bull killed.
1898 Spanish-American War; First South Dakota Infantry to Manila.
1904 Pierre won over rivals for site of the state capital.
1916 The state began a number of socialistic ventures (unsuccessful).
1917 America entered World War I which ended Nov. 11, 1918.
1919 Era of bridge building began, lasting until 1926.
1929 The Great Depression began bringing hard times for a decade.
1941 World War II began for United States, ending in August 1945.
1946 Missouri River Development began with first dam, Fort Randall.
COURSE OF STUDY FOR ELEMENTARY GRADES
HISTORY UNITS VII & VIII FOR GRADE VI

The following references will be found useful in teaching these two units, each of six weeks' duration. Citation of references and pages is made by using the author's surname or as otherwise indicated below.

Barker Barker, Matilda Tarleton. Our State (1956).
Ransom Ransom, Frank Leslie. The Sunshine State (1912).
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Unit VII. From Buffalo Pasture to Statehood (six weeks).

Objectives
1. To know something about the story the rocks unfold.
2. To learn about the early Indian inhabitants and their method of living.
3. To learn more about the early pioneers of the state and the sacrifices they made.
4. To be able to trace the territorial identity of the state.

Content
1. Story told by rocks.
   Activities: Find pictures of prehistoric animals that lived in our state.

Content
2. Indians of South Dakota (a) Early Indian inhabitants (b) Famous Indian inhabitants.

Activities: (a) Debate - Resolved that the Indians were not treated fairly. (b) Play "Come, Come" with the names in sections 2 and 3. The one guessing the right name then becomes it and says, "Come, Come." The others then say, "Where do you come from?" and the one who is it describes the person.


Content
3. Early explorers of South Dakota (a) Lewis and Clark (b) Early missionaries (c) Early noted visitors.

Activities: (a) 1. On the map trace the journey of Lewis and Clark.
2. Find five French names on the map of South Dakota.


Content
4. Territorial claims and transfers (a) Countries claiming Louisiana; England, Spain and France; (b) South Dakota as a part of Louisiana Territory.

Activities: (b) 1. Figure the approximate size of South Dakota. 2. Find five Indian names on the map of South Dakota.


Content
5. Early Settlements (a) Communities founded; (b) Hardships; (c) Dakota Boom.

Activities: (a) Make a list of dangers that the pioneers faced; (b) Make a poster showing why pioneers should settle in our
state; (c) Make a list of the railroads of the state.


Content

6. Indian troubles (a) Red Cloud War: cause; terms of the treaty; (b) Other Indian troubles.

Activities: (a) Discuss the question, "Was Red Cloud really defeated?" (b) Tell the story of Custer's last stand.


Content

7. Early Leaders of the State (a) Political; (b) Military.

Activities: (a) Find counties or cities honoring the names of early political and military leaders. 2. See if you can find the origin of the names of the townships in your county.


Unit VIII. From Statehood to the Present Time (six weeks).

Objectives

1. To appreciate the accomplishments of South Dakota since statehood.
2. To be amused at the story of the shifting capital.
3. To know the location and purposes of our state institutions.
4. To know about the scenic wonders of the state.
5. To know about state ventures to advance the state that have failed or succeeded to accomplish that purpose.

Content

1. South Dakota becomes a state (a) Organization of the State (b) Story of shifting capital (c) State institutions (d) Political leaders (e) Political parties (f) Statistical.

Activities:
Activities: (1.b) Write a short movie act or make a frieze showing the method of locating the state capital. (c) Learn the names and locations of the state penal, charitable, and educational institutions. (d) See if you can find the names of some of the political leaders on the map. (e) Name the state representatives and senators in Washington. (f) Make a list of the five largest cities and the five largest counties; also the five most populous counties.


Content
2. Participation in Wars (a) Civil War volunteers kept at home to help guard the settlements (b) Other wars; Spanish-American; World War.

Activities: (2.b) Make a list of state heroes in the Second World War.


Content
3. Scenic wonders of the State.

Activities: (3.a) Write an "ad" encouraging outsiders to spend their vacations in South Dakota. (b) Make a booklet on Scenic Wonders in our State.


Content
4. State ventures - State bridges, rural credits, state hail insurance, coal mines, cement plant, state fair.

Activities: (4) Locate the State bridges on the map.


Content
5. Indians in recent times - Messiah craze, death of Sitting Bull, Battle of
Content

Wounded Knee, opening of Indian Lands, Indian reservations today, life of Indians today.

Activities: (a) Tell the story of the Wounded Knee Massacre. (b) Locate the largest Indian reservations in the State.


Content

6. Items of Special Interest - Initiative and referendum; President Coolidge in Black Hills; prohibition; removal of Mennonites; Reconstruction Finance Corporation activities; building of lakes and dams; building public buildings and projects to relieve the depression; drought and grasshoppers, selling of rural credits land, farm mortgages, probable influence of Great Lakes-St. Lawrence Waterway; possibilities of great hydraulic dams along the Missouri; recreational facilities of the state; reforestation; gross income tax. Accomplishments of noted citizens -- Hanson; Hughitt; Beadle; Badger Clark; Doane Robinson; F.A. Spafford; Martin Charger.

Activities: (a) Make a list of important minerals found in the Black Hills. (b) Collect stories about the Black Blizzards and grasshoppers. (c) Find a picture of Rushmore Memorial. (d) Read some of the poems by Badger Clark.

RECOMMENDATION

When the educational system of South Dakota was examined by representatives of the U.S. Bureau of Education, they made the following statement:

"For effective teaching in grammar grades there should be an abundance of outside material. In fact this should be the main source of content matter, the textbook serving as a reference work and the place in which to study perspective. The course of study should be very explicit as to how the supplementary material is to be used.

"The leading criticism of the history outline is that small topics and mere historical facts serve as the center of ideas rather than large units.

"Much more emphasis should be given to local history. Many historical stories form suitable material for dramatization in the lower grades... Indian lore associated with the early history of South Dakota contains situations desirable for reproduction.

"Every neighborhood has, in its own history, elements that form the nucleus for pageantry. The course of study should stimulate activity in this direction, showing how the pupils, with the teacher as a leader, may work out these dramatizations."

South Dakota - County Outline Map