

# Daily Press and Dakotian.

Vol. 2

YANKTON, DAKOTA TERRITORY, MONDAY EVENING, JANUARY 22, 1877.

No. 228.

## THE DAKOTA LEGISLATURE.

### TWELFTH SESSION.

#### Eleventh and Twelfth Days.

##### Council.

Yankton, D. T., Jan. 20.

##### AFTERNOON SESSION.

The council met after recess and were notified by committee from the house that the house was ready to receive the council in joint session on the Black Hills subject.

The council then proceeded in a body to the house room.

##### JOINT SESSION.

Roll call showed a quorum of both houses present and the speaker declared the joint session duly organized.

Messrs Dawson, Henckle and Meyer were invited to seats on the platform.

George S. Hinckle was introduced and read from manuscript prepared upon the subject of the Hills. His first theme was the placer mines of the Hills, which he took up from the earliest discovery of gold in the Hills, giving in detail the history of each claim, illustrating his subject with some maps drawn from his own surveys, made within the past few months.

The placer mines, the speaker designated as possessing great richness, on both slopes of the Hills. The quartz mines were rich beyond computation. To use Mr. Hinckle's figure of speech, the Hills were a mass of quartz rock speckled all over with gold. Silver and lead bearing ore was found in inexhaustible quantities on Bare Butte creek. Timber existed in large quantities in the Hills and in the near future he thought all the prairie country about us would be supplied with cheap timber from this source. The tillable land in the Hills was plentiful and grazing tracts existed everywhere. Mr. Hinckle gave a brief description of the cities of the Hills and then struck upon the subject of toll roads, which he urged the establishment of and asked the assistance of the legislature in their construction. He also asked for the establishment of territorial roads, bridges, wells, etc. He thought Dakota should do something to gain a share of the trade, which now went to Wyoming.

Dr. Meyer was introduced but asked to be excused at this time, as he was suffering from a severe bronchial difficulty which rendered articulation difficult.

Gen. Dawson was introduced, and after a graceful prelude and a complimentary allusion to Dr. Meyer, he entered upon the subject of the Hills. The subject was too vast to do justice to in a short address. There were mountains of gold bearing rock in the hills. The placers mines had already yielded \$3,000,000 in gold and the

speaker had no doubt that next season would give ten times that amount. Deadwood thus far had yielded fully three quarters of this gold. The hills had received no protection from the government—its people had been looked upon as interlopers, there had been no courts and the revolver was generally the law. He hoped that when the treaty was ratified Dakota would give them organization and courts. There was need for a new county out of Lawrence and Custer counties, which will probably be called Rapid or Castle county.

The population of the Hills at the present time was from 7,000 to 10,000 and the population was daily increasing. By the 1st of May there would be 25,000 people in the Hills. As soon as the Indian title was extinguished the people of the Hills asked for a large amount of legislation in behalf of that locality. The closing of the Pierre route last summer by the government had led the occupants of the Hills to suppose that Dakota took little interest in them, while the extraordinary efforts of the Wyoming people have led them to look to that side of the Hills for whatever they want. Both wheat and oats had been grown in the Hills during the past season and vegetables in abundance. As a grazing country it was unparalleled. Horses and cattle could live on the self cured grass all winter. The timber interests of the Hills were of great value to Dakota. Gen. Dawson fully endorsed Mr. Henckle's statements in regard to the richness of the Hills. They had silver ore which assayed 1800 ounces of silver to a ton of ore and it existed in inexhaustible quantities. The speaker did not favor the proposition for a new territory. He did not think it was necessary, believing that Dakota as it now was would do justice to the mining portion of the territory.

Dr. Burleigh offered a resolution that that Dr. Meyer be invited to prepare a statement in writing giving a detailed account of the resources of the Hills and the wants of its people.

The resolution was adopted.

Dr. Burleigh stated that an arrangement had been consummated by which passengers were ticketed through from Chicago to Yankton for \$13. Arrangements had also been made to put on a steamboat line from Yankton to Pierre and the speaker was now in communication with stage managers in reference to a stage line from Pierre to the Hills. Freight on goods from Chicago to the Hills for 90¢ less than half the cost by way of the Union Pacific road. The speaker was interested in one boat now lying at the levee and was making arrangements to secure others for the Pierre line.

Mr. Beadle offered a resolution thanking the speakers for the information given and assuring them that everything would be done in behalf of the hills which it was possible for the legislature to do. The resolution was adopted.

Joint session, on motion, was dissolved.

##### TWELFTH DAY.

Yankton, D. T., Jan. 22.

The council convened at ten a. m., with prayer by the chaplain.

All the members were present.

##### REPORTS OF COMMITTEES.

Mr. Turner reported back from the judiciary committee house bill No. 11, a bill for an act to legalize the assessment in Hanson for the year 1875, and recommended its passage. The bill had its third reading and was passed.

##### INTRODUCTION OF MEMORIALS.

Mr. LaMour presented a memorial to the senate and house of representatives of the United States praying for the establishment of additional land offices in northern Dakota. The memorial was referred to the committee on counties.

##### UNFINISHED BUSINESS.

Mr. Mills reported back from the standing committee on enrolled bills, council bills No. 6 and No. 13 with the committee's report that both had been correctly compiled.

Council adjourned.

##### House.

House met pursuant to adjournment and was called to order by the speaker.

Prayer by chaplain.

Roll called.

Members all present.

##### REPORTS OF COMMITTEES.

Mr. Beadle from the judiciary committee presented a chapter upon chattel mortgages to be made a part of the civil code.

The same committee reported back C. B. No. 2, a bill to change the names of Elizabeth and John Smith, and recommended that it do not pass.

Also a bill creating a penal code for the territory.

Mr. Dunham from the committee on counties and townships to which had been referred a memorial asking the revocation of the order extending the Sioux reservation over a portion of Burleigh county, reported the same back without amendment and recommended its passage.

##### NOTICE OF BILLS.

By Mr. Sargent—To grant to Geo. F. Johnson the right to maintain a ferry on the Red River of the North.

##### RESOLUTIONS.

Mr. Ziebach introduced the following resolution, which was unanimously adopted:

WHEREAS, Dr. C. W. Meyer, and Gen. A. R. Z. Dawson, have been delegated by the people of the Black Hills to represent the interests of that section before the legislature of Dakota, and as these gentlemen are now in the city for the purpose of discharging the duties imposed upon them; therefore be it

Resolved, That Dr. Meyer and Gen. Dawson, be invited to seats upon the floor of the house and that they be accorded the privilege of being heard upon such measures they may desire to have enacted for the benefit of the people of the Hills.

Council bill No. 2, to change the names of Elizabeth and John Smith, was read a third time, and put upon its passage.

The bill was rejected, and the clerk directed to transmit to the council the substance of the report of the judiciary upon which the action of the house was based.

House file No. 12. A memorial for an increase mail service on that part of route No. 25014, from Maxwell City and Olivet be increased to six times a week.

House file No. 14. A memorial for an increase of service on mail route No. 35014 from Vermillion to Olivet be increased to three times a week.

House file No. 15, a bill to change the name of Milltown, in Armstrong county, to Milton, was read a second time, and on motion the rules were suspended, and the bills passed.

On motion of Mr. Beadle, chapter 27 of house file No. 4, to create a political code of the territory, was reported to the judiciary committee, and committee afterwards reported a substitute for said chapter, which was ordered printed.

House file No.—, a memorial to vacate that portion of the Sioux reservation extending into Burleigh county, was read a third time and passed.

##### SPECIAL ORDER.

The special order, it being house file No. 2, a bill creating a penal code, was then taken up, and amendments submitted by the codifying commission read by the clerk.